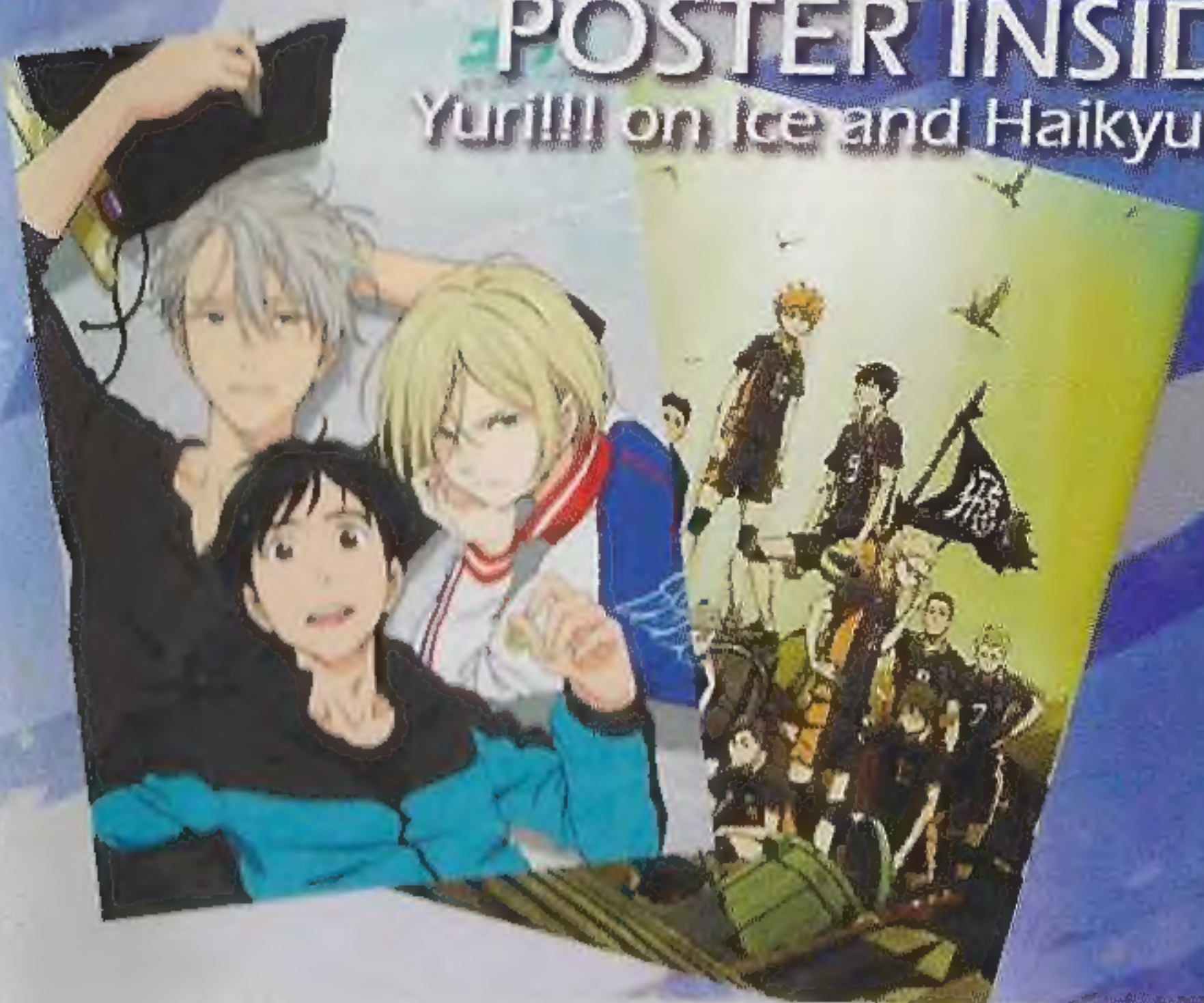


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**ユ-リ!!!**  
**YURI ON ICE**

**POSTER INSIDE**  
Yuriiii on Ice and Haikyuu!!!



**WHICH GAME, COSPLAYER,  
MANGA AND ANIME MADE IT  
TO OUR REVIEW?**  
2016 O.A. YEAR END REVIEW



**COSPLAY MANIA**  
**THE UNMEI EXPO**  
EVENT REVIEWS

**BASIC PATCH TUTORIAL**  
**PETTICOAT TUTORIAL**  
OTAKU LIFE HACKS

**SNOWY NIGHT BACKGROUND**  
ART OF OTAKU  
WITH XANDER



**BEHIND ENDUINS**  
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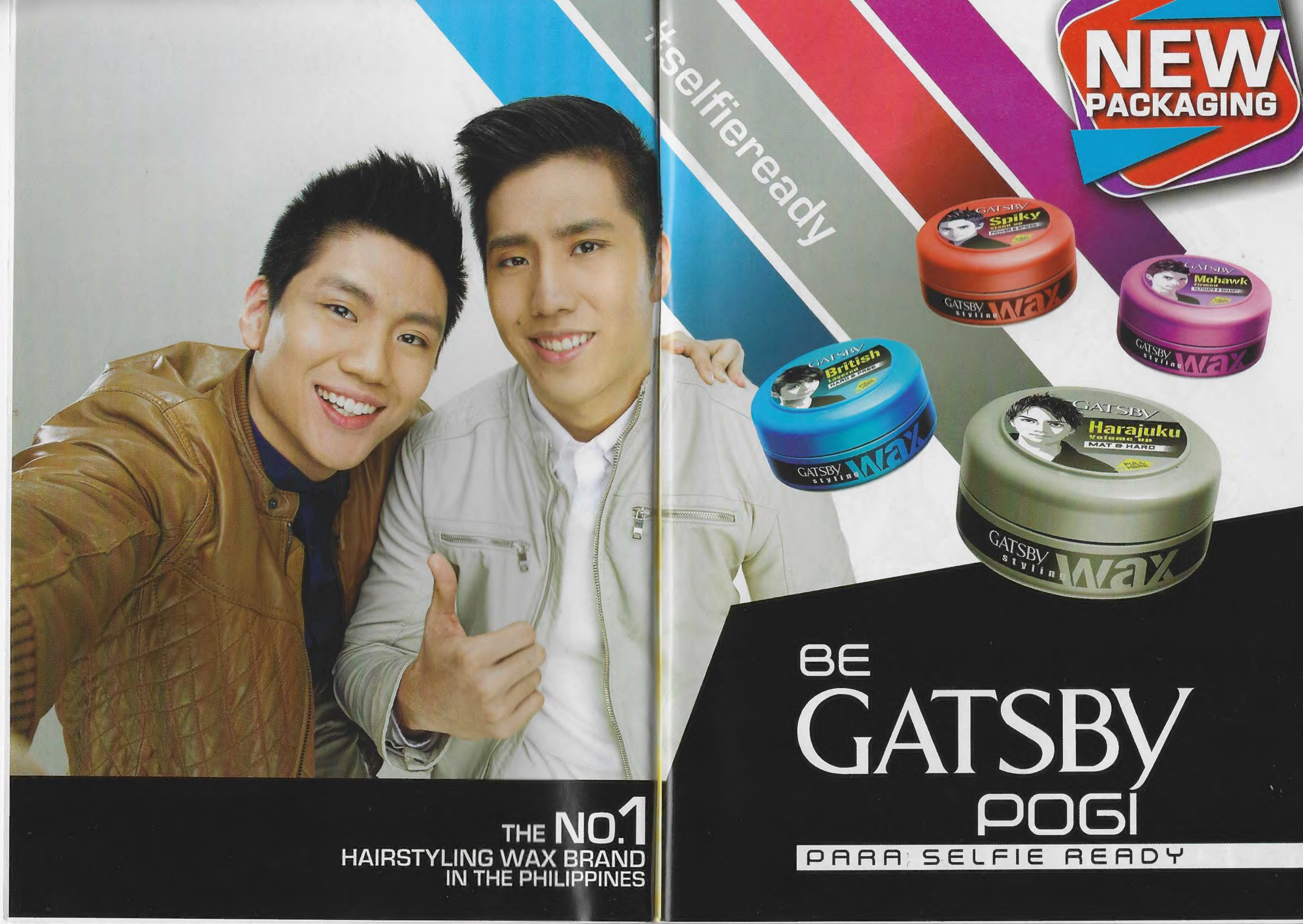
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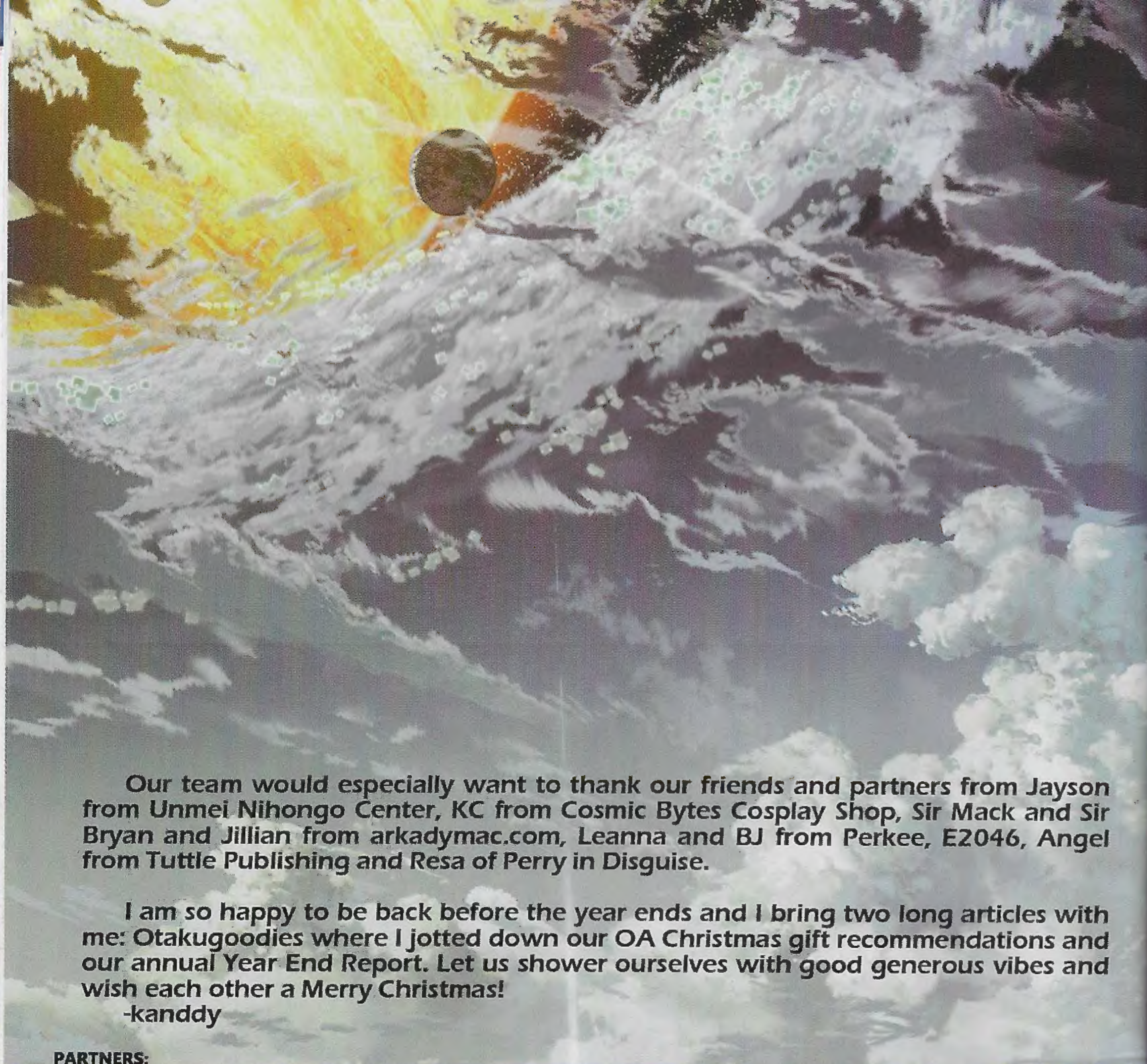
**THE COSTAKU SHOP**

Photography by KL Portraits

Cosplayer: Beru Kashiragu







Our team would especially want to thank our friends and partners from Jayson from Unmei Nihongo Center, KC from Cosmic Bytes Cosplay Shop, Sir Mack and Sir Bryan and Jillian from arkadymac.com, Leanna and BJ from Perkee, E2046, Angel from Tuttle Publishing and Resa of Perry in Disguise.

I am so happy to be back before the year ends and I bring two long articles with me: Otakugoodies where I jotted down our OA Christmas gift recommendations and our annual Year End Report. Let us shower ourselves with good generous vibes and wish each other a Merry Christmas!  
-kanddy

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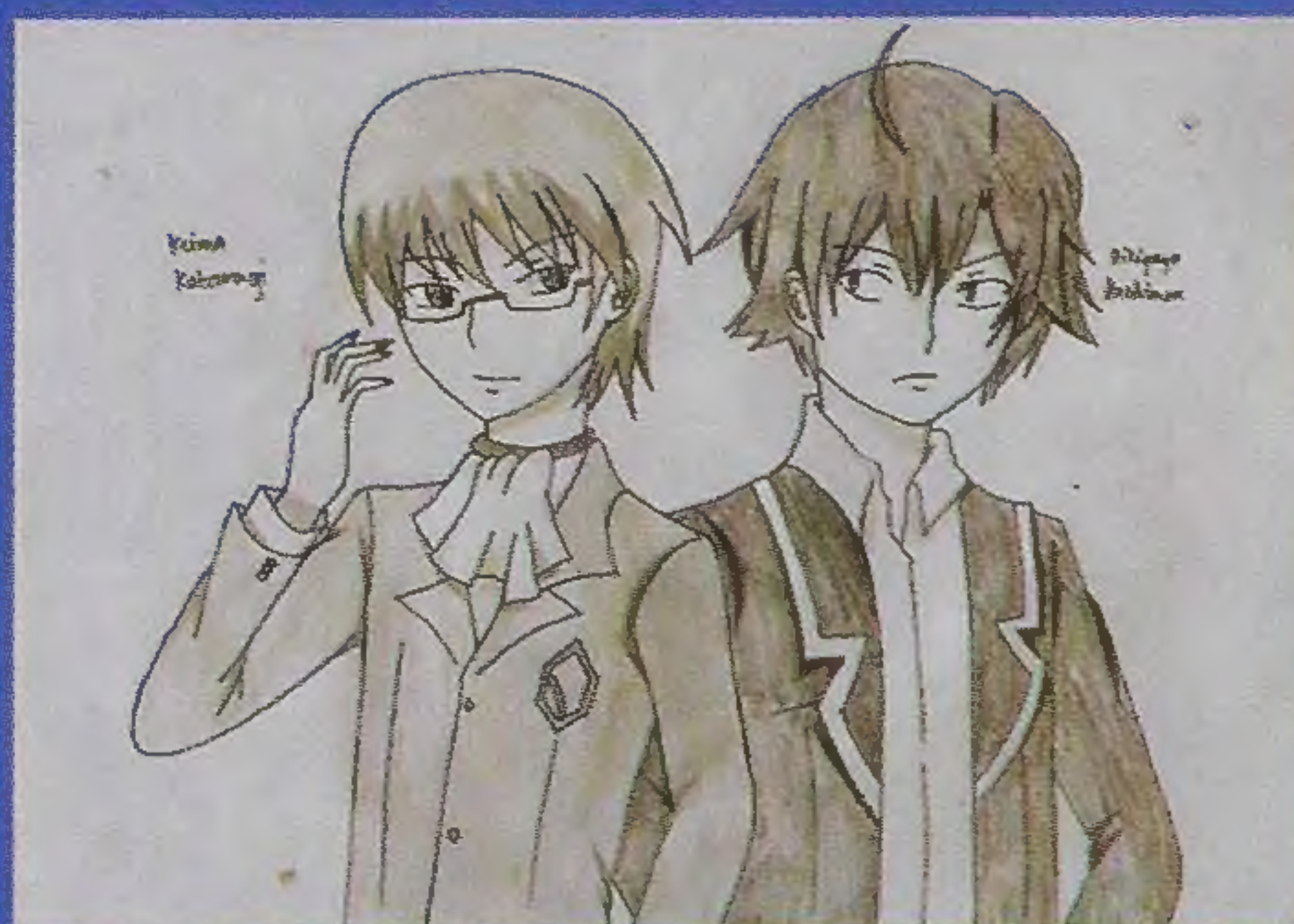
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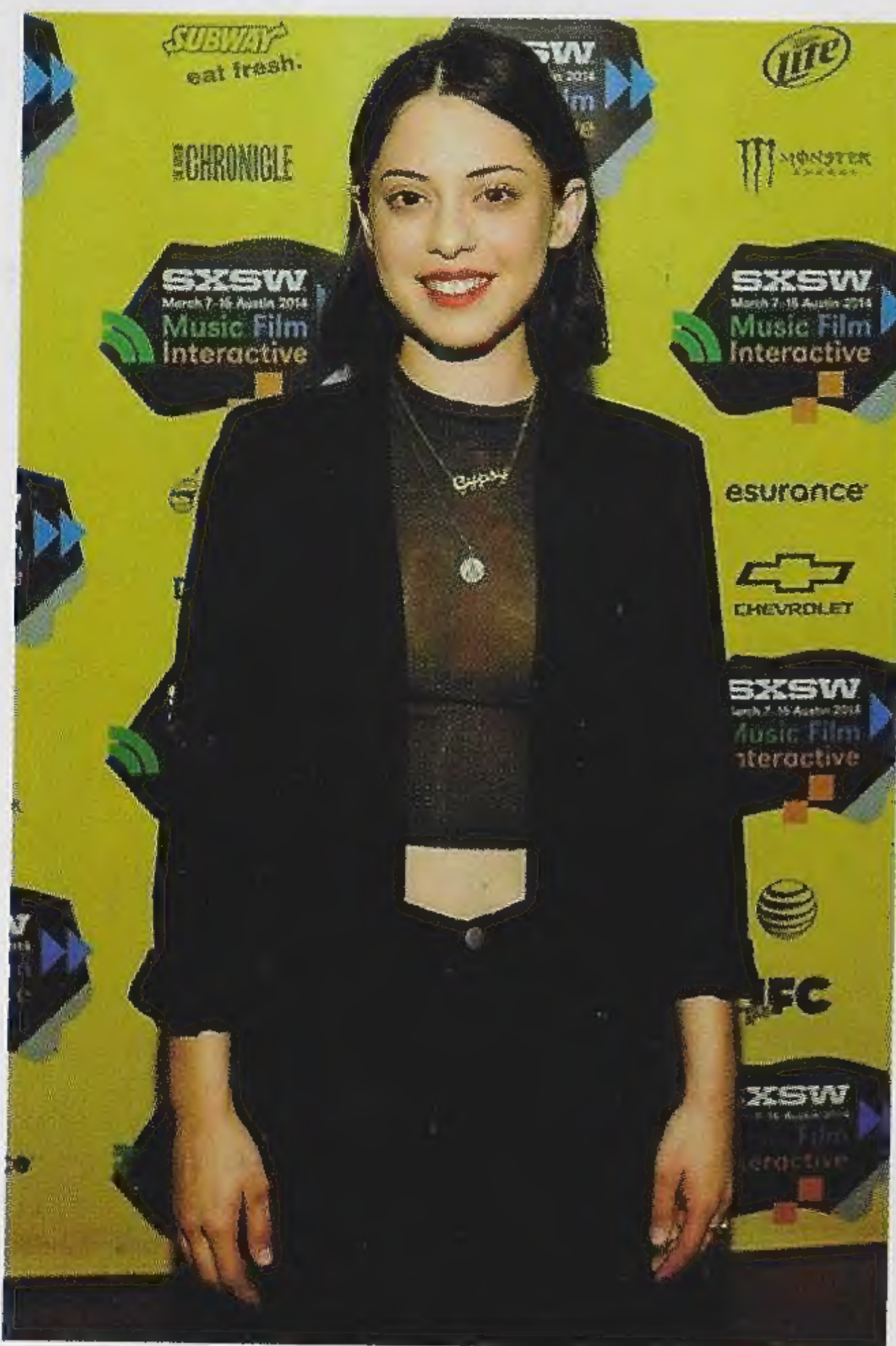
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## Battle Girl Alita Live Action In The Works



Not a lot of people know about the 90's post-apocalyptic anime Battle Angel Alita, which is alternatively known as GUNNM, but it has a solid cult following, and its obscurity has made it "popular" among hardcore anime geek circles. However it's not obscure enough for James Cameron and Robert Rodriguez, as the two filmmakers have teamed up to make a live-action film of it.

For the uninitiated, the anime is centered on Alita, a battle cyborg who has been found and revived by cybermedic expert Daisuke Ito. Having been in suspended animation for so long, she has forgotten all but one memory: Panzer Kunst, legendary martial artist. And because of her amnesia, she has decided to journey the 26th century dystopian city of Scrapyard –and beyond - in search of who she truly is.

The eponymous heroine will be played by Rosa Salazar, whose breakout roles was in The Maze Runner: Scorch Trials as Brenda. Meanwhile, her caretaker and mentor will be played by Christoph Waltz of Inglorious Basterds and Django Unchained fame. Casting also includes Lana Condor, who played as Jubilee in X-Men Apocalypse, as orphaned teenage photographer Koyomi.

The movie is scheduled for release on July 20, 2018. It's quite a long time from now, but surely, the fans of this unknown and underrated gem are already excited.



## New Digimon Game for 3DS This December

Digimon fans, if you feel that your favorite monster-battling franchise has been eclipsed by all things Pokemon lately, then you'll be pleased to know that Digimon will be getting a new game, and on the Nintendo 3DS to boot. It's no other than Digimon Universe: Appli Monsters.

As the name suggests, the game, which is a Deck Battle RPG, will be revolving around Appli. While technically still Digimon despite the different name, what sets them apart from the usual eponymous monsters of the franchise is that players obtain them by scanning Appli chips. These Appli can also be combined via "Applink" in order to enhance certain Appli, or even have them evolve.

The game is a follow-up for the new line of hobby products – an Appli Drive toy device and the chips for it – and the anime, which was released in Japan last October 1.

So, when is the game coming out? Around December this year. So tamers, be ready.





あなた好みの「キノコの娘」にきっと出会える



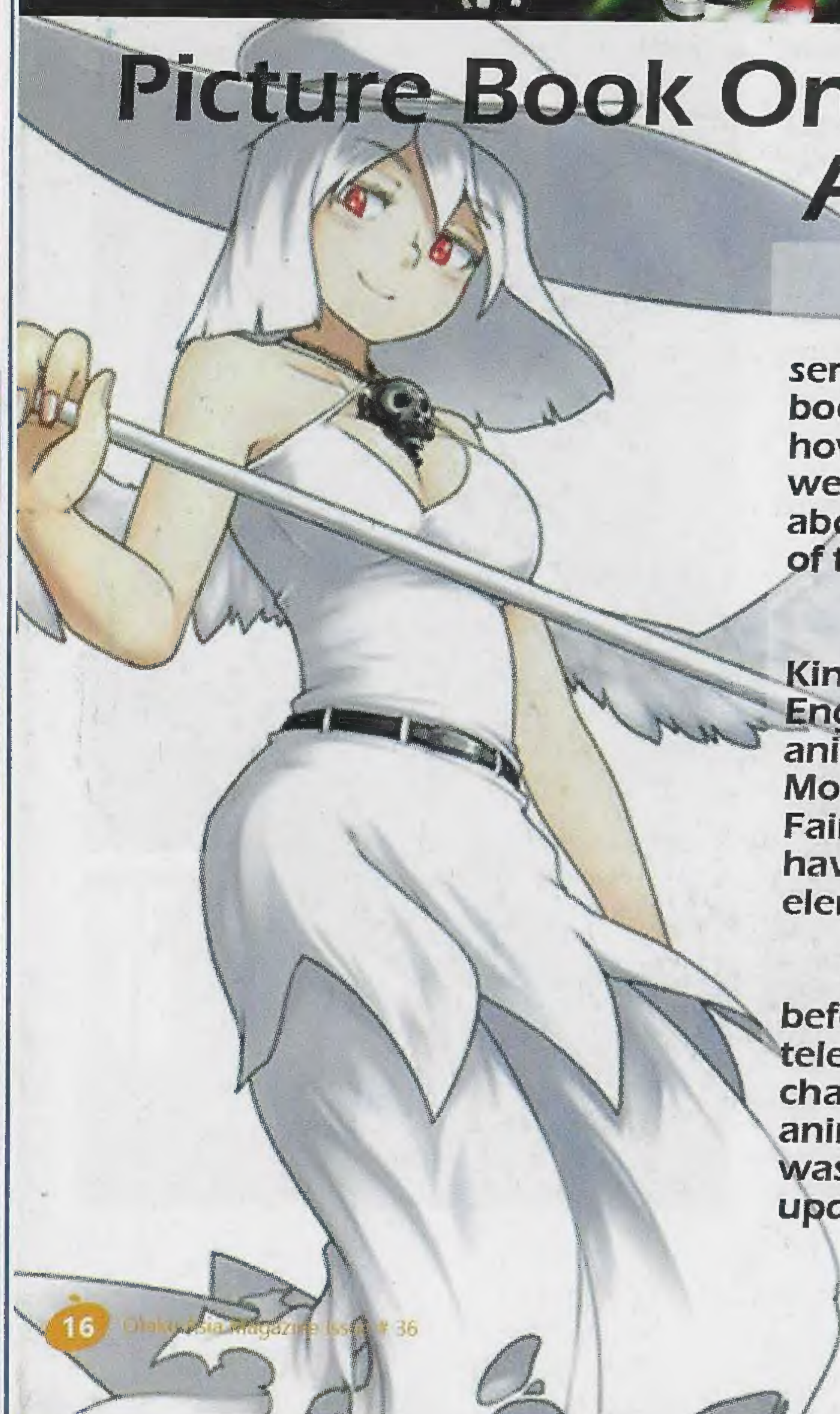
愛  
おしいけど  
毒  
があるかも？

## Picture Book On Mushrooms Gets Anime Adaptation

Manga, LNs, novels, and video games often serve as source materials for anime. Picture books, not so much. A certain picture book, however, is going to be one – a rare but welcome instance. So, what is this picture book about? Mushrooms, or female personifications of them drawn anime-style, rather, to be exact.

Oso-teki Kinoko Gijinka Zukan (oso's Kinoko Personification Pictorial Book in English), which features mushroom species as anime-style girls, will have an anime entitled *Mori no Yasei Kinoko no Musume* (Forest Fairies: Mushroom Girls). It will be in 3D CG, have an original story, and will feature musical elements.

The anime will be airing in 2017. But before it does, *Anime-chan ni Kaeru Kuni*, a television variety show, has begun introducing characters and voice cast members of the anime. In addition, the picture book, which was released back in 2014, has had an updated version released.



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meh...



## MORE GUDETAMA

Our obsession with the lazy egg this year was intense and now share the hype with this shirt who is not hyped at all. Uniqlo Sanrio short sleeve graphic t-shirt P590

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You have recieved so much this year, it's time to give and what better way than the otaku way?

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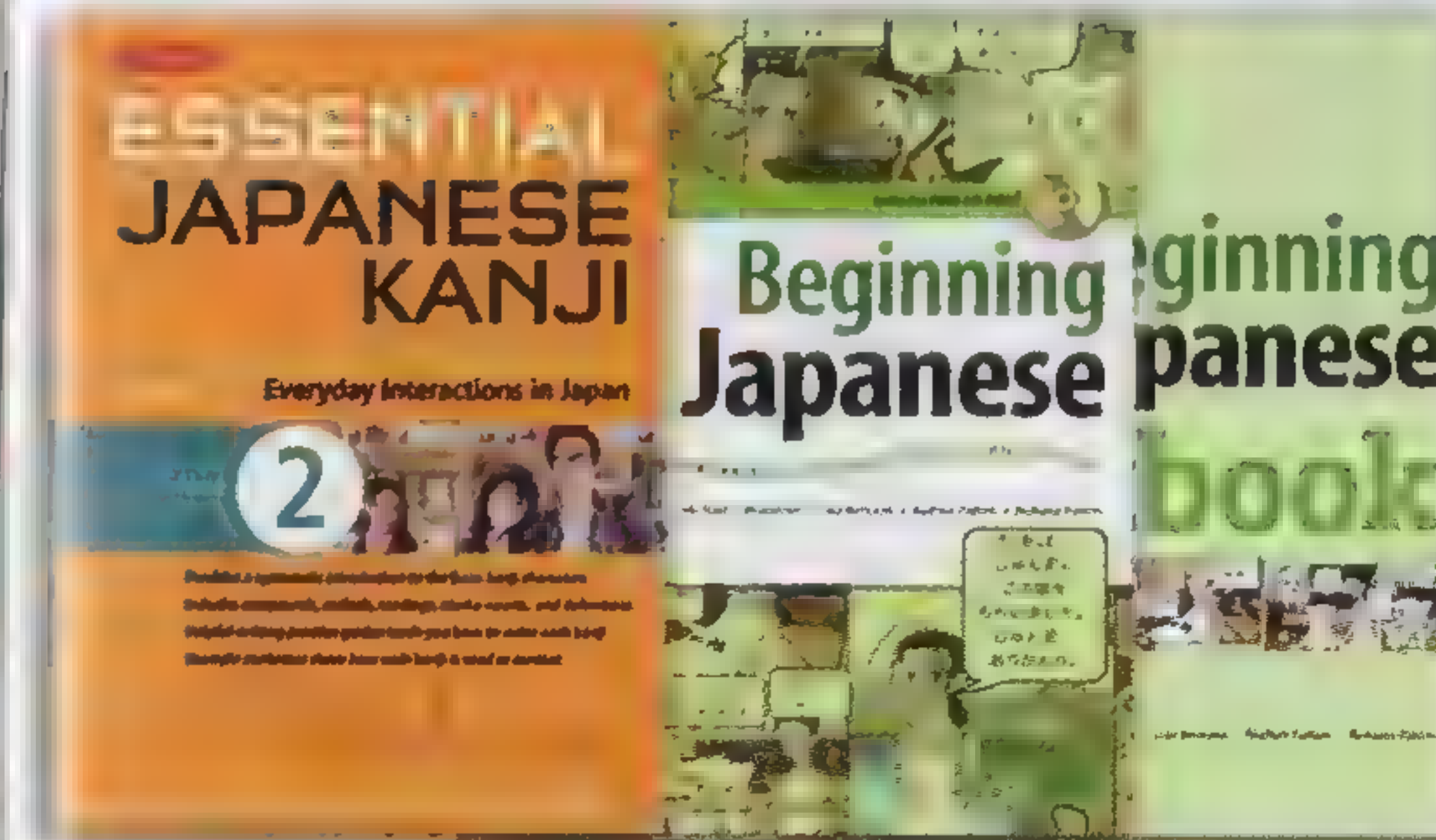
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## FOR THE JAPANOPHILE

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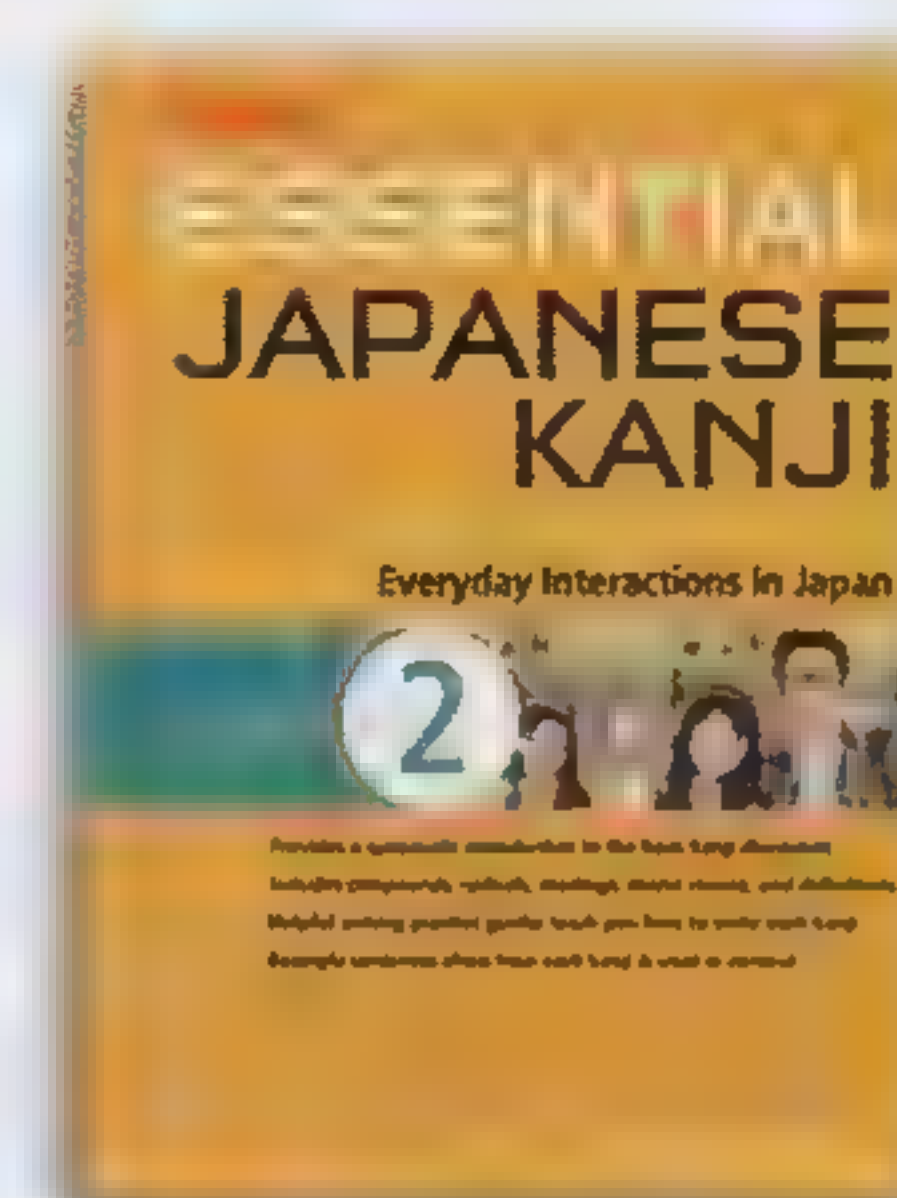
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## SEPTEMBER NEW RELEASES



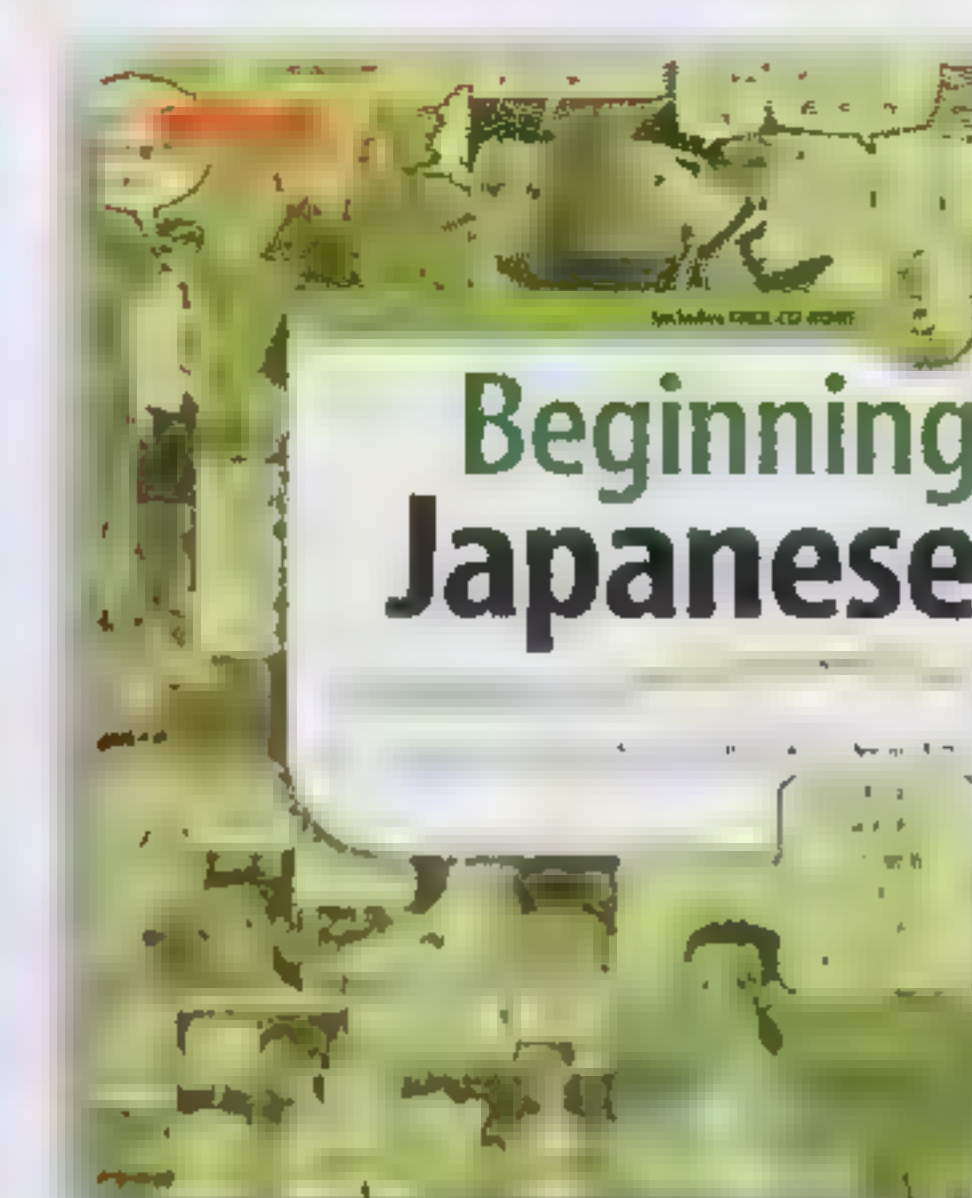
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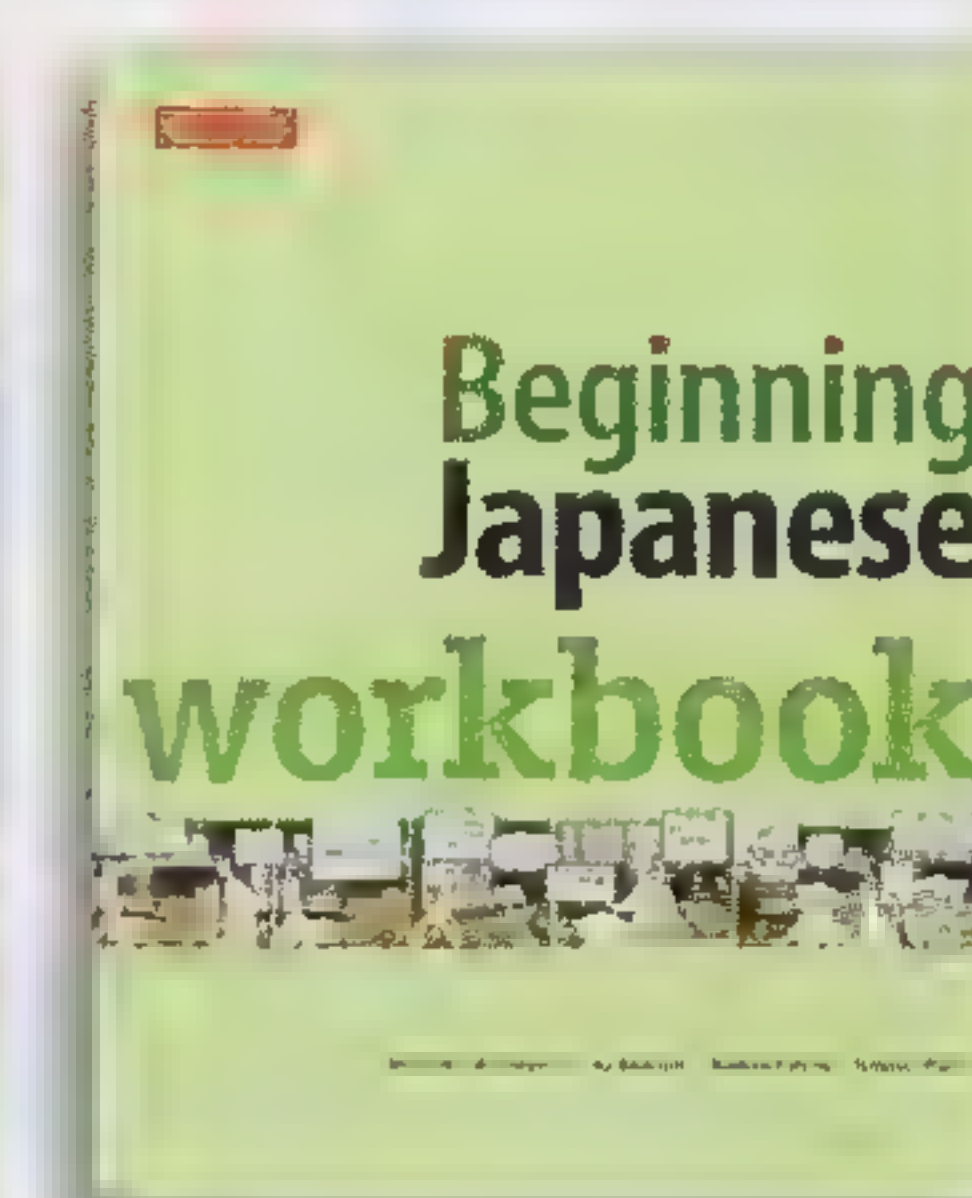
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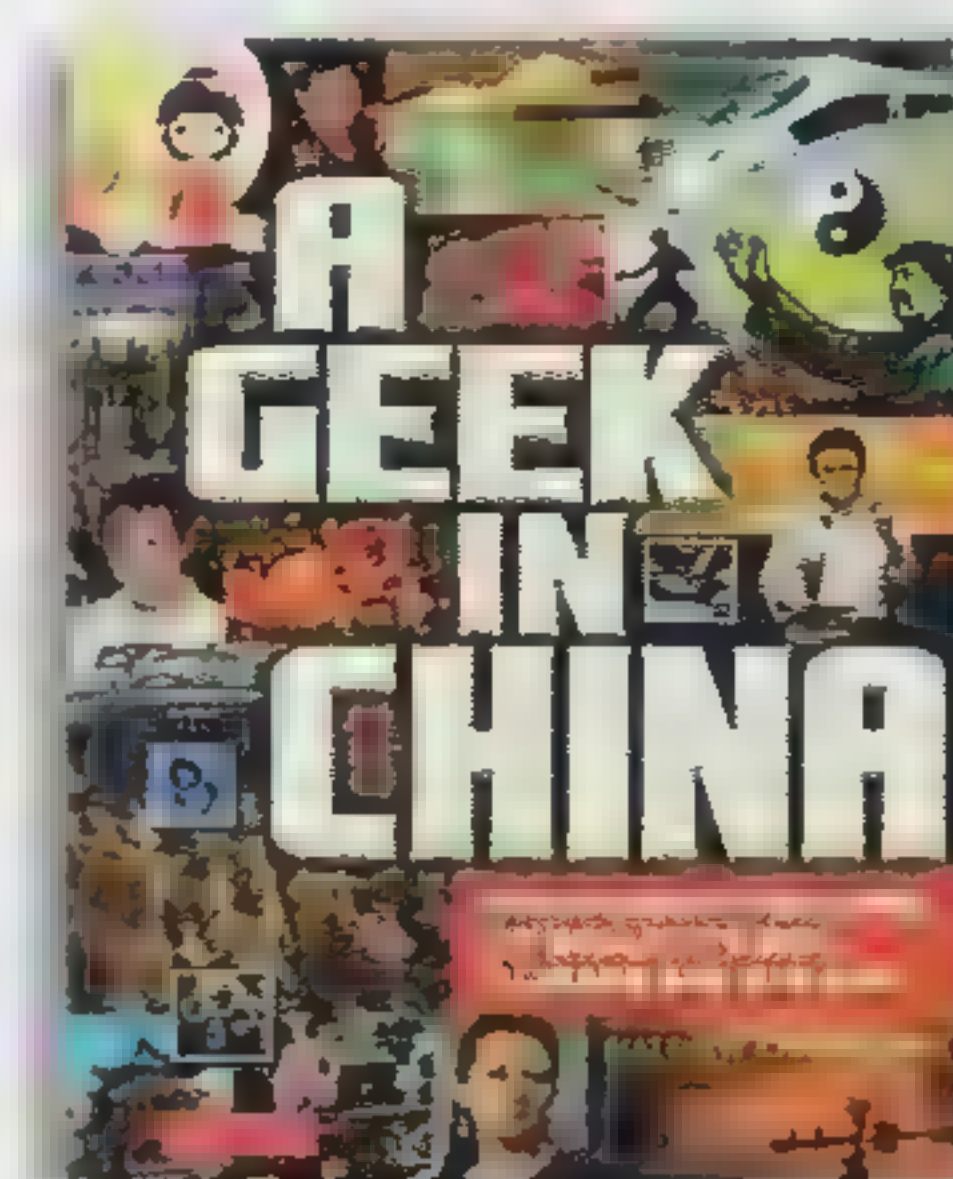
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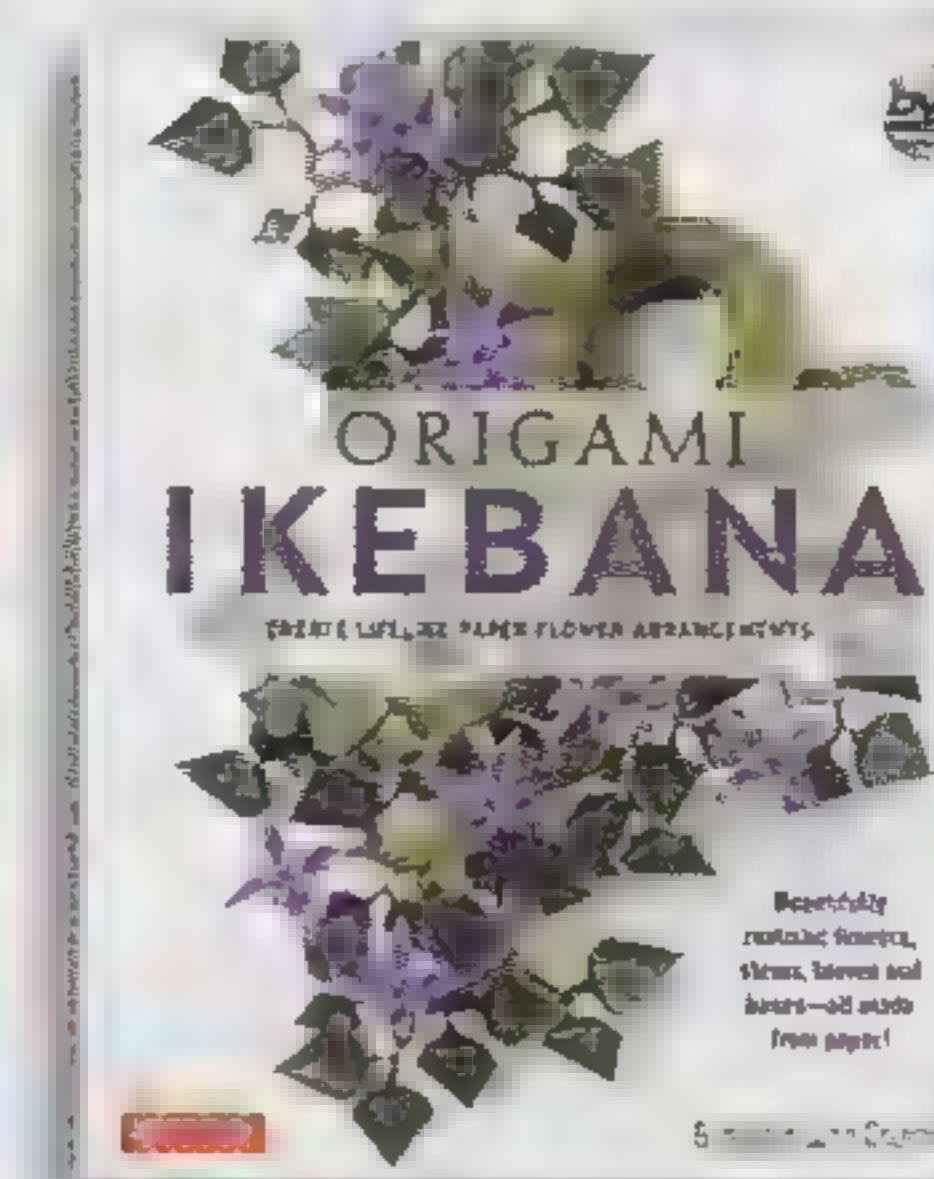
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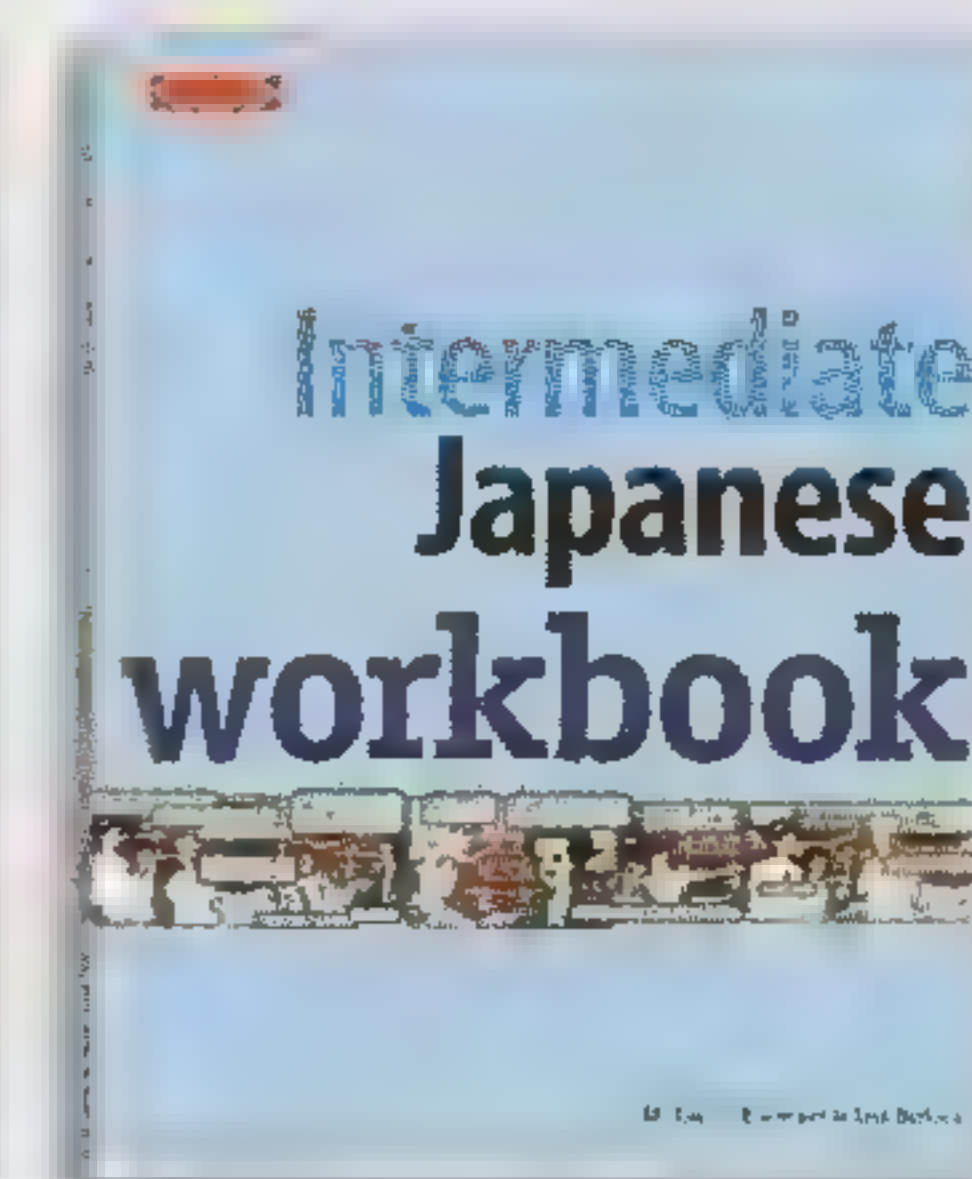
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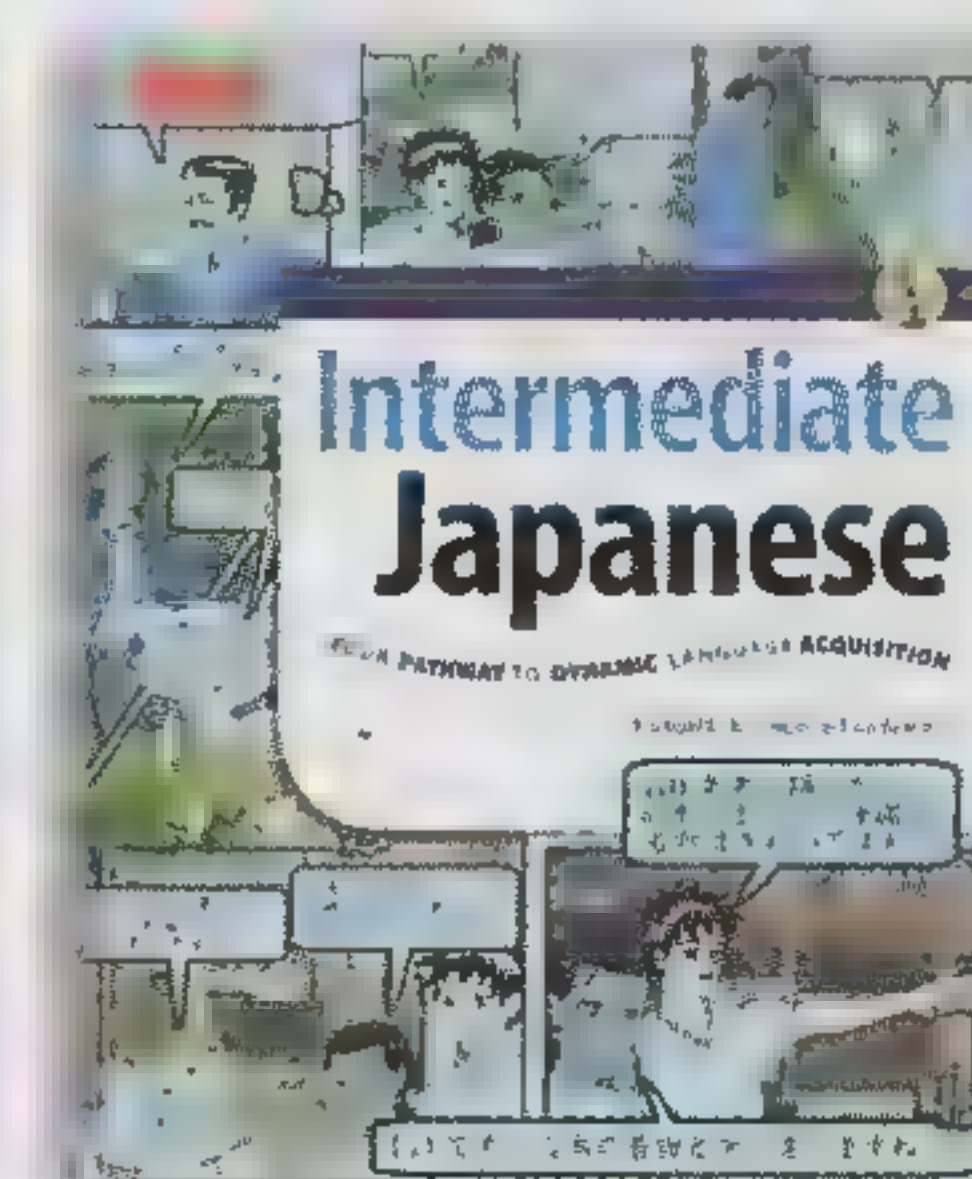
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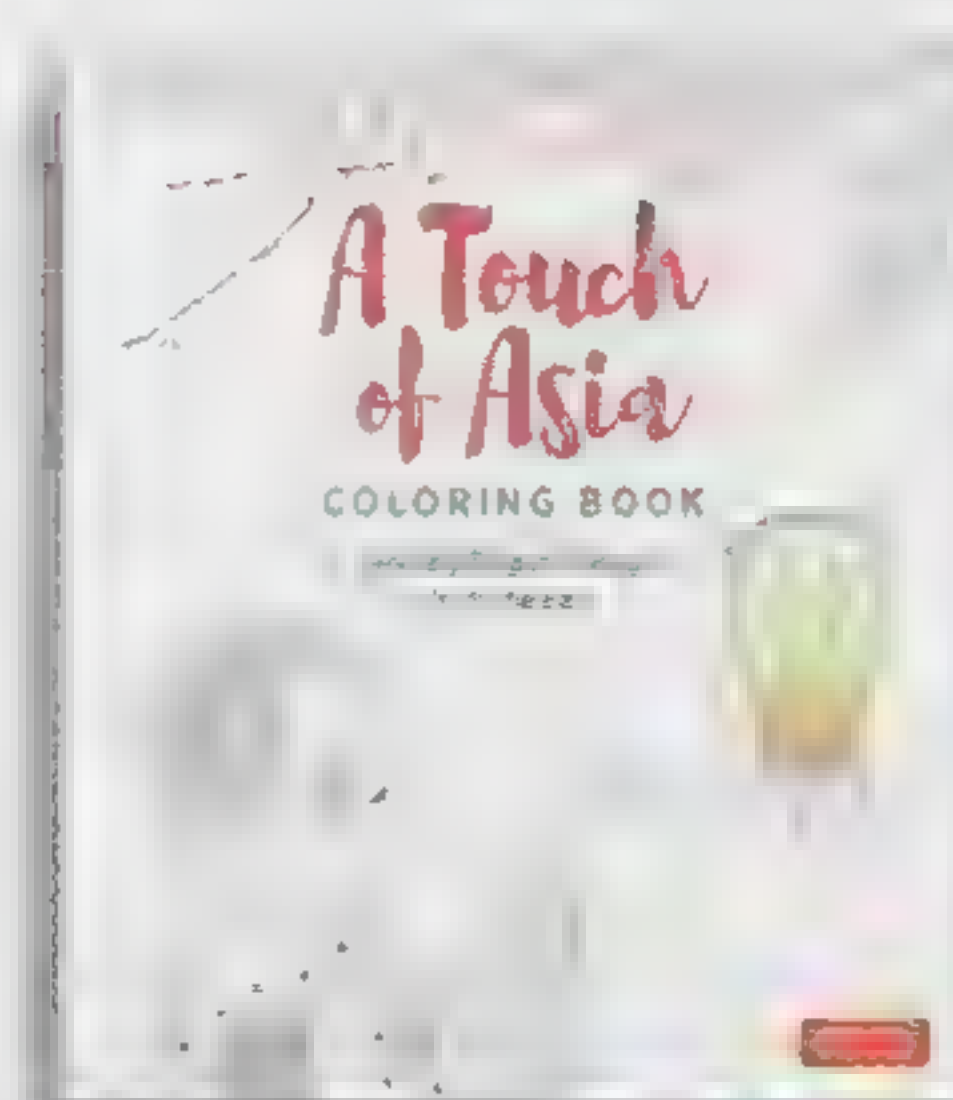
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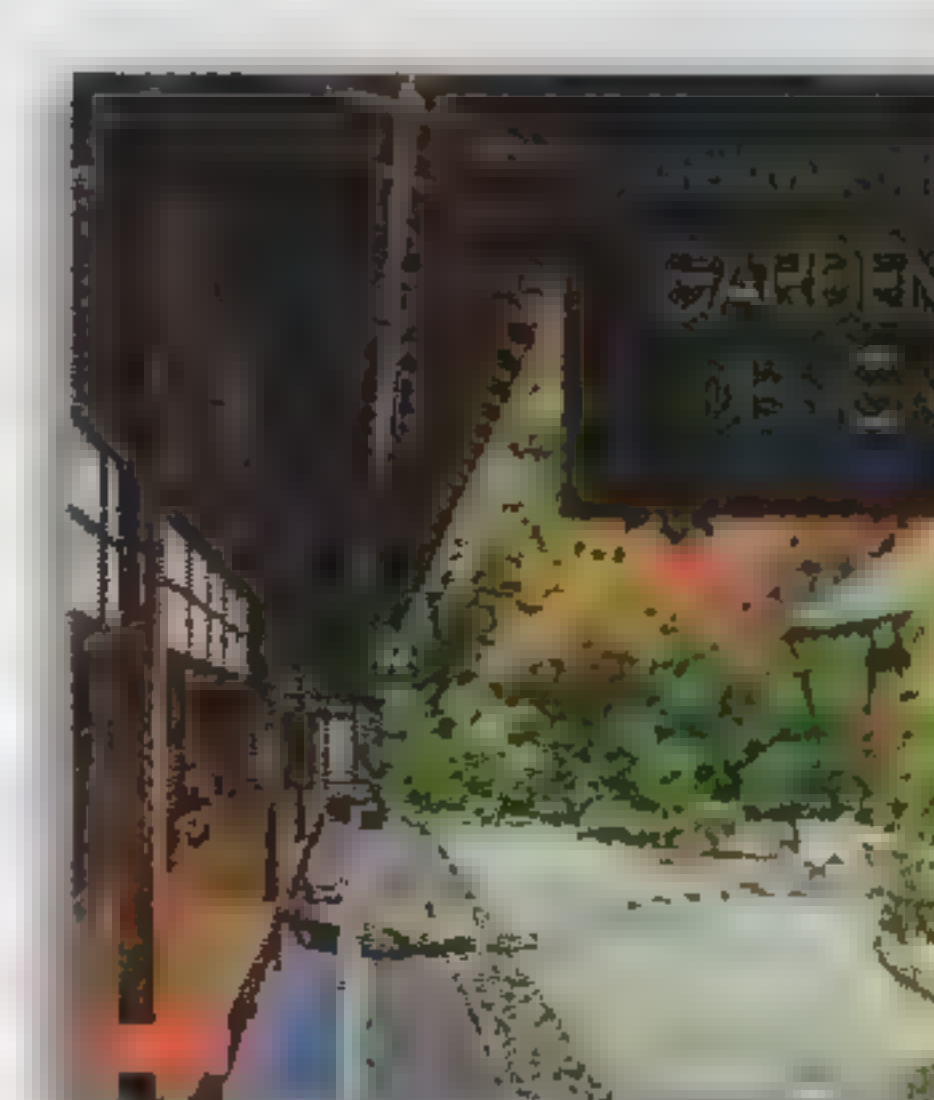
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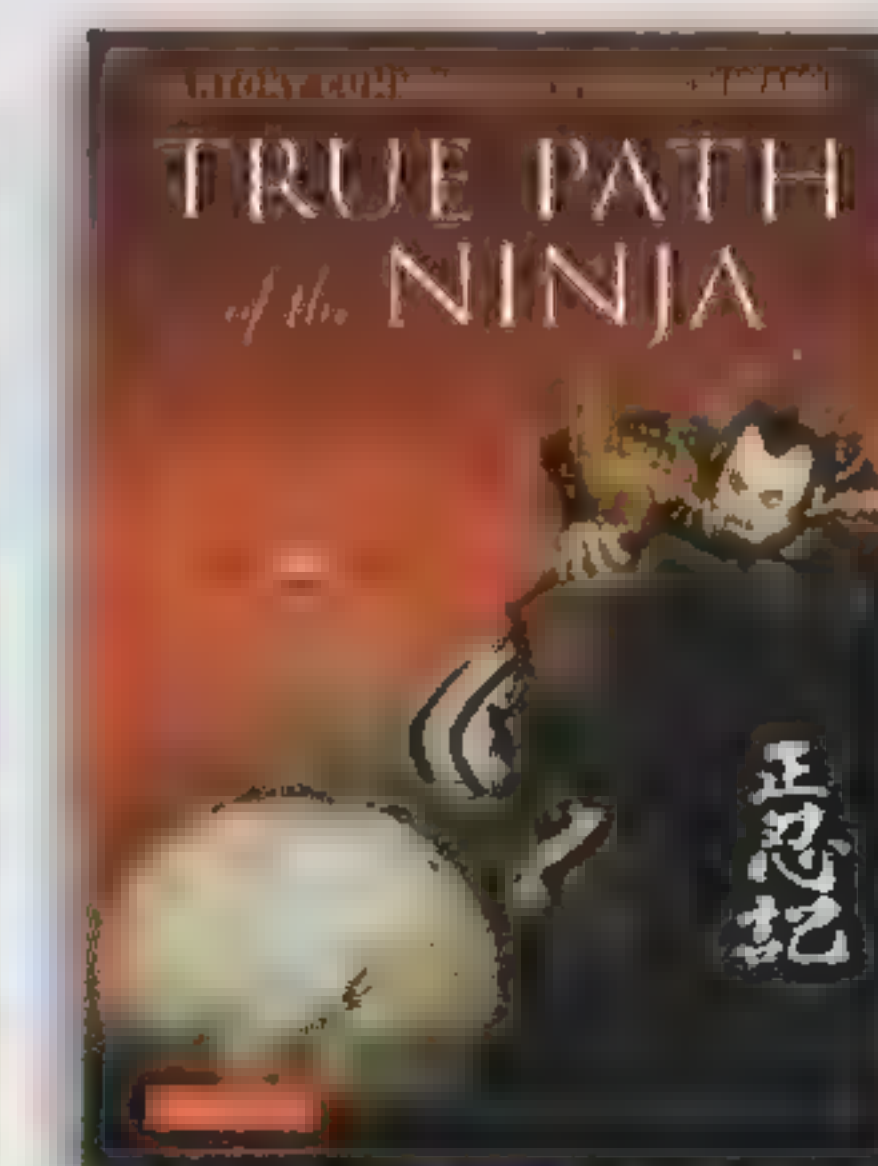
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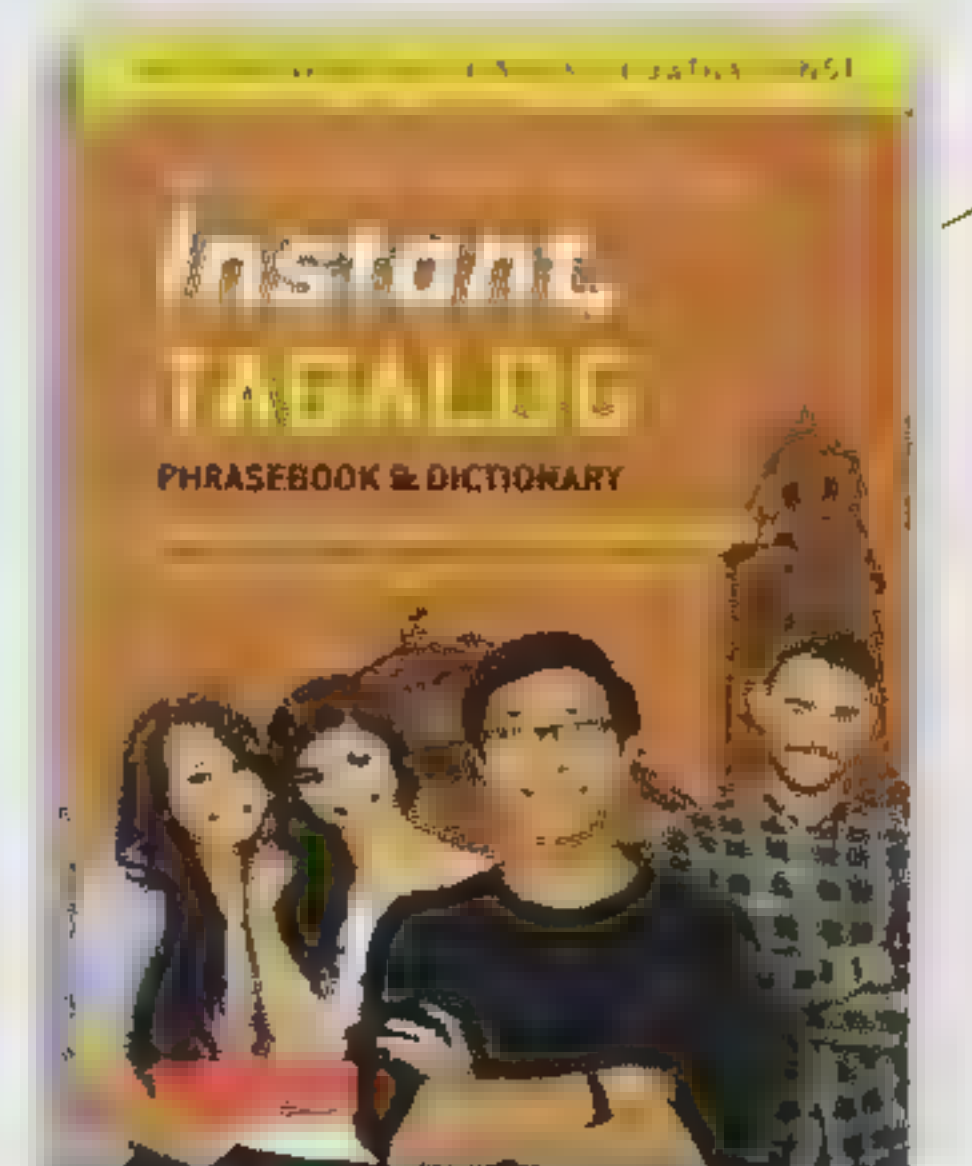
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## LET THE GOOD TIMES FLOW

by Ann

Raising a glass to celebrate? In the tradition of Japan, let the Japanese teach you more than one way to take this party to another level!

Since drinking alcohol is a large part of the Japanese lifestyle – from friendly social gatherings to business meetings – the Japanese are considered one of the highest alcohol consumers in the world. While the rest of the world might frown at this kind of statistic, Japan responds with a big grin because alcohol is beyond a drink for the body. Alcohol is a drink for the mind and the heart. Let's take a look at some of their beloved drinks:

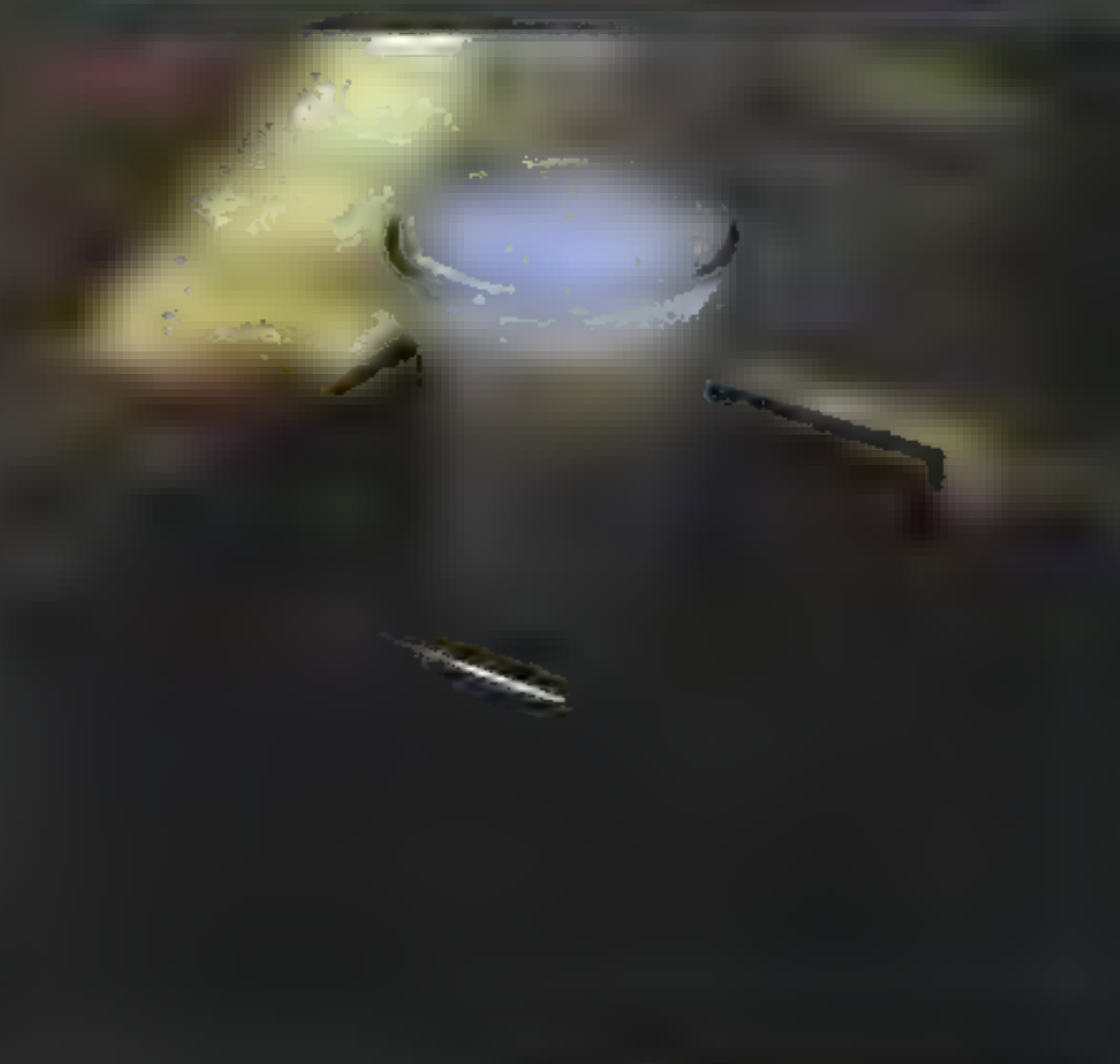
### BEER



Although beer did not originate here, it's still the most consumed alcoholic drink because of its availability in cans, making it easier to bring anywhere – at home or in a picnic. Also, it's widely available in convenience stores and vending machines. Japan has what it calls the Big Four, which are the four most popular beer brands: Kirin, Asahi, Sapporo, and Suntory. There's even an annual Great Beer Festival in various parts of Japan, which feels somewhat like the October Fest.

Another feature of Japanese products is innovation, and beer is just one of the products they poured their creativity in. There's less malt in Happoshu or sparkling alcohol whereas malt is replaced by pea, soy, corn, or wheat spirits in Third beer or Shin Janru. Aside from differences in taste, these varieties are also cheaper than regular beer.

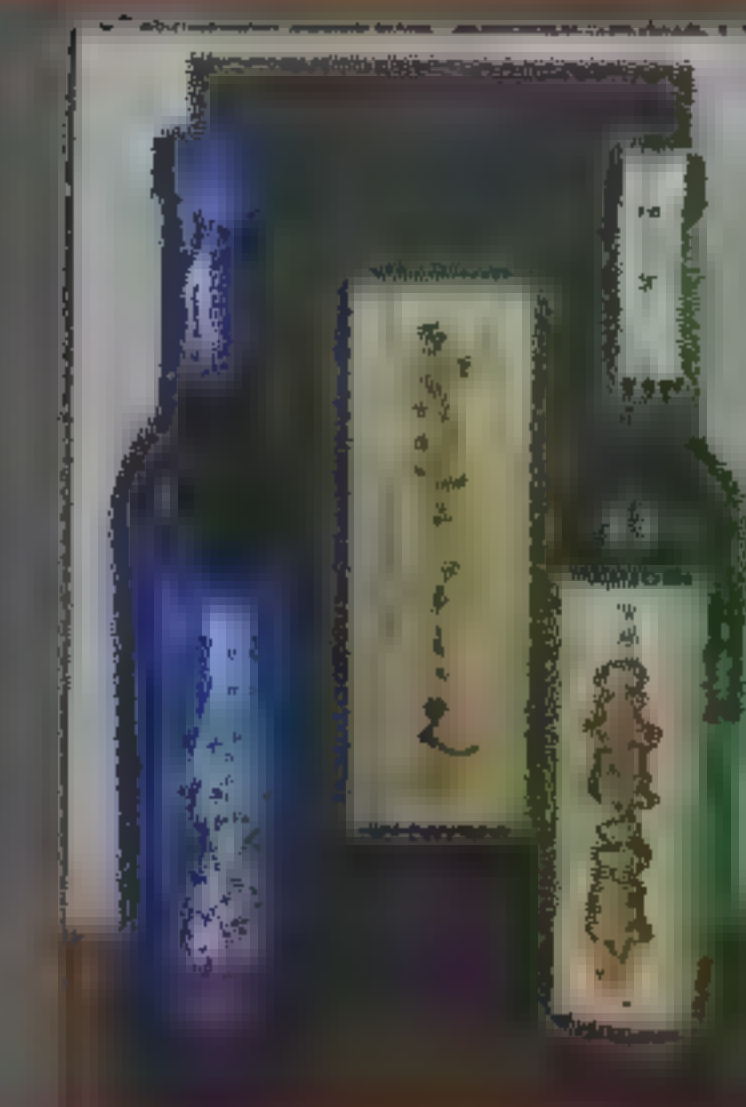
### SAKE



Sake or more specifically, nihonshu was Japan's most popular alcohol until beer became overflowing in the early 20th century. Known as rice wine but is actually brewed, there are various grades depending on the quality of the autumn rice and the milling process it underwent. Usually, this process takes a year, but the result has alcohol content of around 10-20%. Normally, sake can be served hot or chilled, which makes it perfect for Japan's varying seasons, a cold drink for the summer and a hot drink for the winter.

### SHOCHU

A distilled alcohol made from grain or sweet potato, shochu is mostly drank on the rocks and with other mixes such as water, juice, or oolong tea. It is mainly produced in Kyushu Island. Also, this drink has 20-40% alcohol content. A ready mix of shochu, soda, and other flavors like lemon, plum, grapefruit and more is available in can and is called chuhai with 3-8% alcohol content.



### UMESHU

With ume or plum as the primary ingredient, umeshu is plum liquor that can be based in sake, shochu, brandy, or white liquor. It's usually served with ice and/or soda water.



### JAPANESE WHISKY AND WINE

Gaining popularity are whisky and wine, though both are not drinks native to Japan and require to be imported, they show traces of the people embracing different alcoholic tastes.



Apart from knowing what drinks are on the menu, one needs to be equipped with knowledge of the drinking customs:

#### DO'S

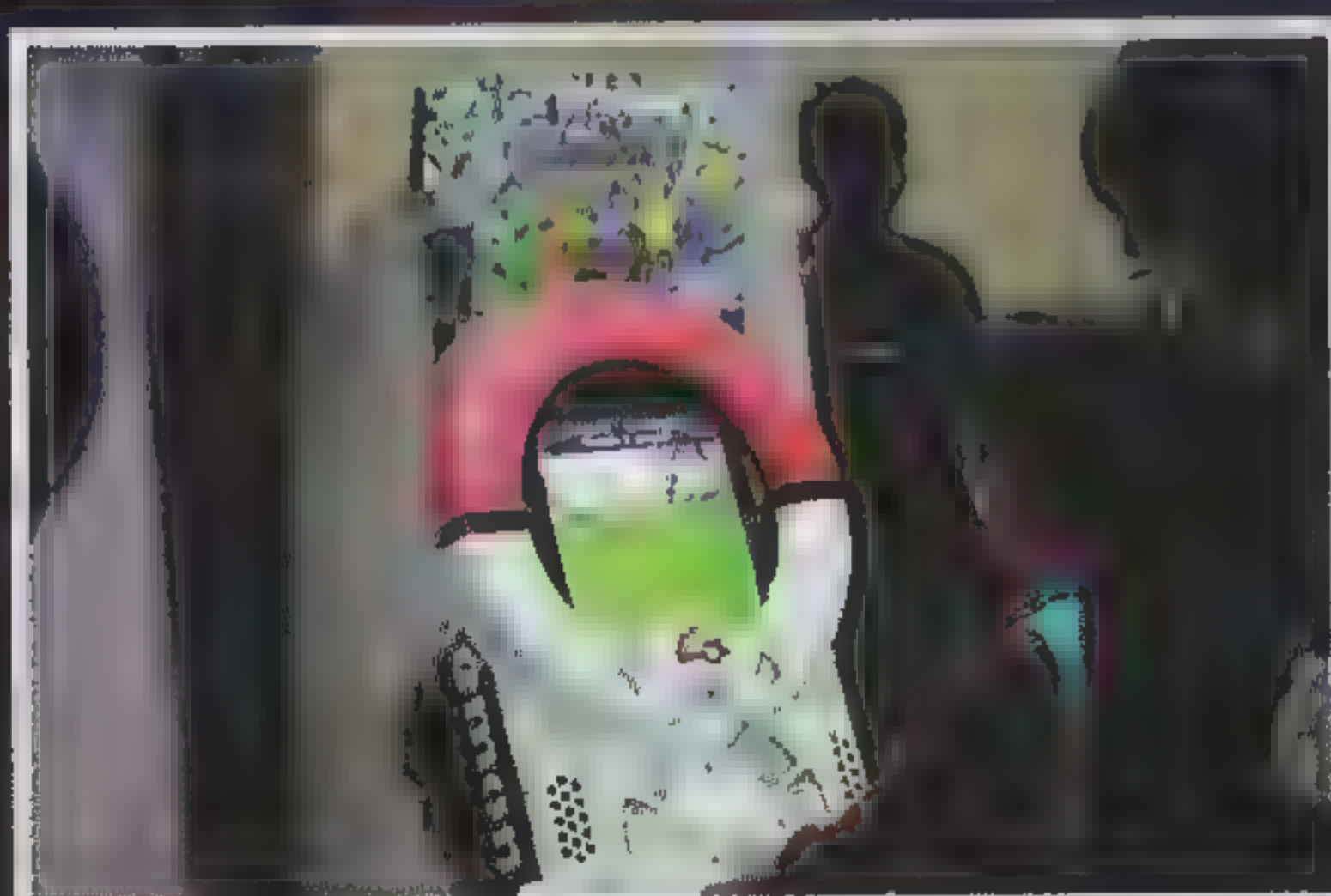
- Wait for your glass to be filled with alcohol by the waiter or the people in your group (If this party is with co-workers, usually the seniors would pour for the juniors)
- Pour alcohol to the glass of the person you're with to return the favor
- Keep your glass full if you don't want to drink anymore so that the other person will not pour more alcohol into it
- Drink in moderation
- Play drinking games like Takenoko Takenoko Nyoki Ki and have some fun!

#### DONT'S

- Serve yourself your own drink
- Drink before everyone's glasses are filled and everyone toasted with "Kampai"

On the other hand, drinking can be a costly habit for the Japanese, but it's quite necessary for success in their culture because of its contribution to team building and having a bit of an excuse to break some rules. Of course, while learning how important drinking is in Japan, the last tip and one that should never be forgotten is the legal drinking age being 20. While rule-breaking may be good for some drinkers, safety is still a priority. So, if you're still under 20, just wait a little longer and soon you can raise your full glasses and cheer, "Kampai!"



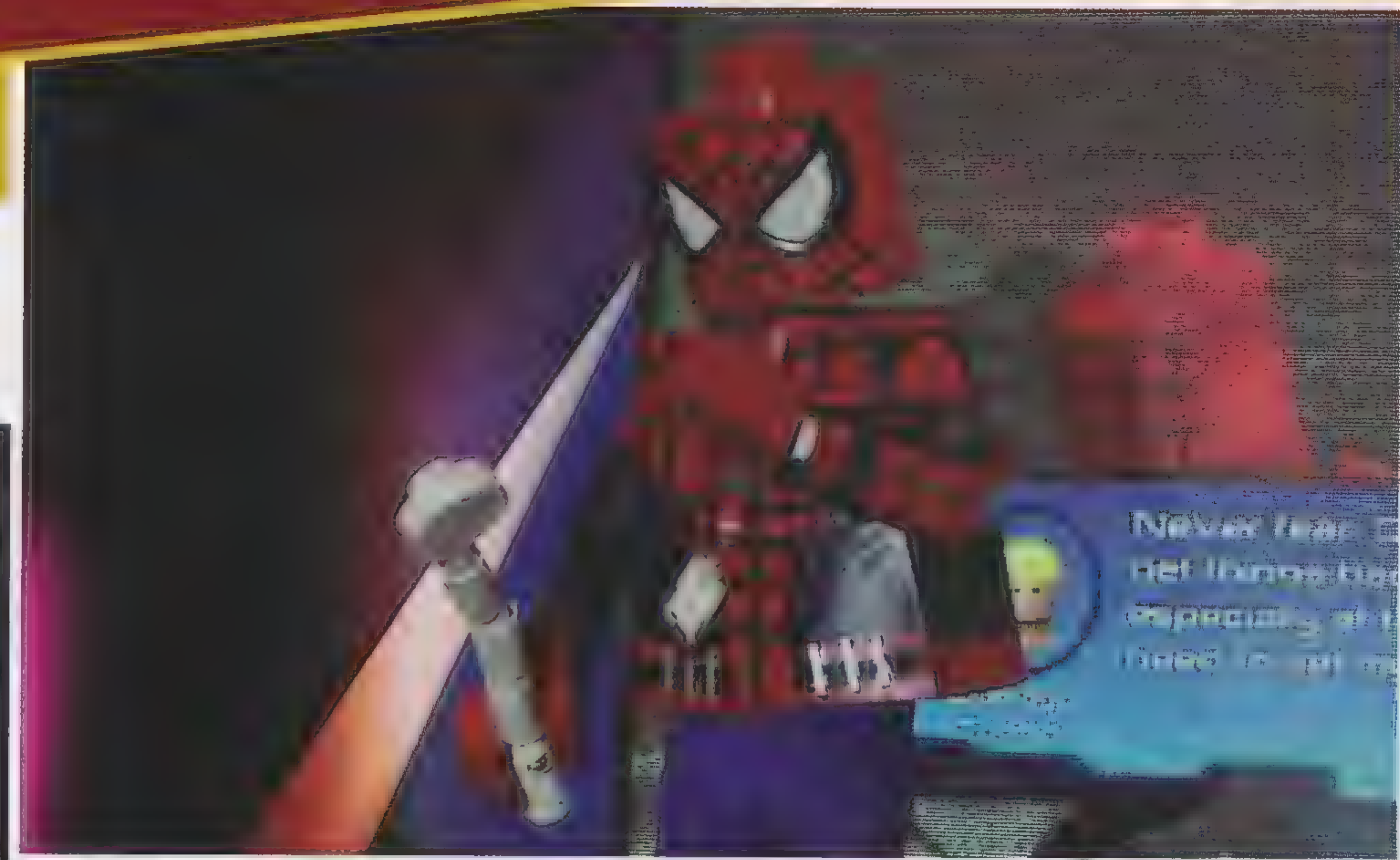
COSPLAY  
MANIA!

Cosplay Mania is definitely one of the big events that everyone has been waiting for!~ It was held last October 1-2, 2016 at Function Rooms 2-5, SMX Convention Center Manila. The exhibit area is located at Function Rooms 4-5 which is really huge and contains a lot of exhibitors. For this year, they have organized where the different booths will be located based on its genre. There were 5 sections: Lifestyle, Blockbuster, Gaming and Fanfair, Collectibles and meals. This was really a great help because congoers will know where they will look for if they need/want to buy something.

Months before the event, they already have released early bird tickets which are really affordable and helpful since we don't need to buy and fall in line during the event. The early bird ticket price of bronze is 199 (regular price: 249), silver is 299 (regular price: 349), gold is 499 (regular price: 599). Titanium tickets for this year has 2 types: P8000 includes all access for 2 days plus meet & greet to guest cosplayers and P8000+ if you want to have meet and greet as well with the JAM guests.

For this year's Cosplayer guest lineup, they have Yukari Shimotsuki, DD-Tenka, Baozi & Hana, Kirisaki, Rumi, Tomia, Hiko, Ruka and of course Kaname. For the JAM guest lineup, they have Tokyo Performance Domo, Riho Iida, Back-on, Kanako Ito and Starmarie. Cosplay Mania's JAM this 2016 is in partnership with I <3 Anisong.

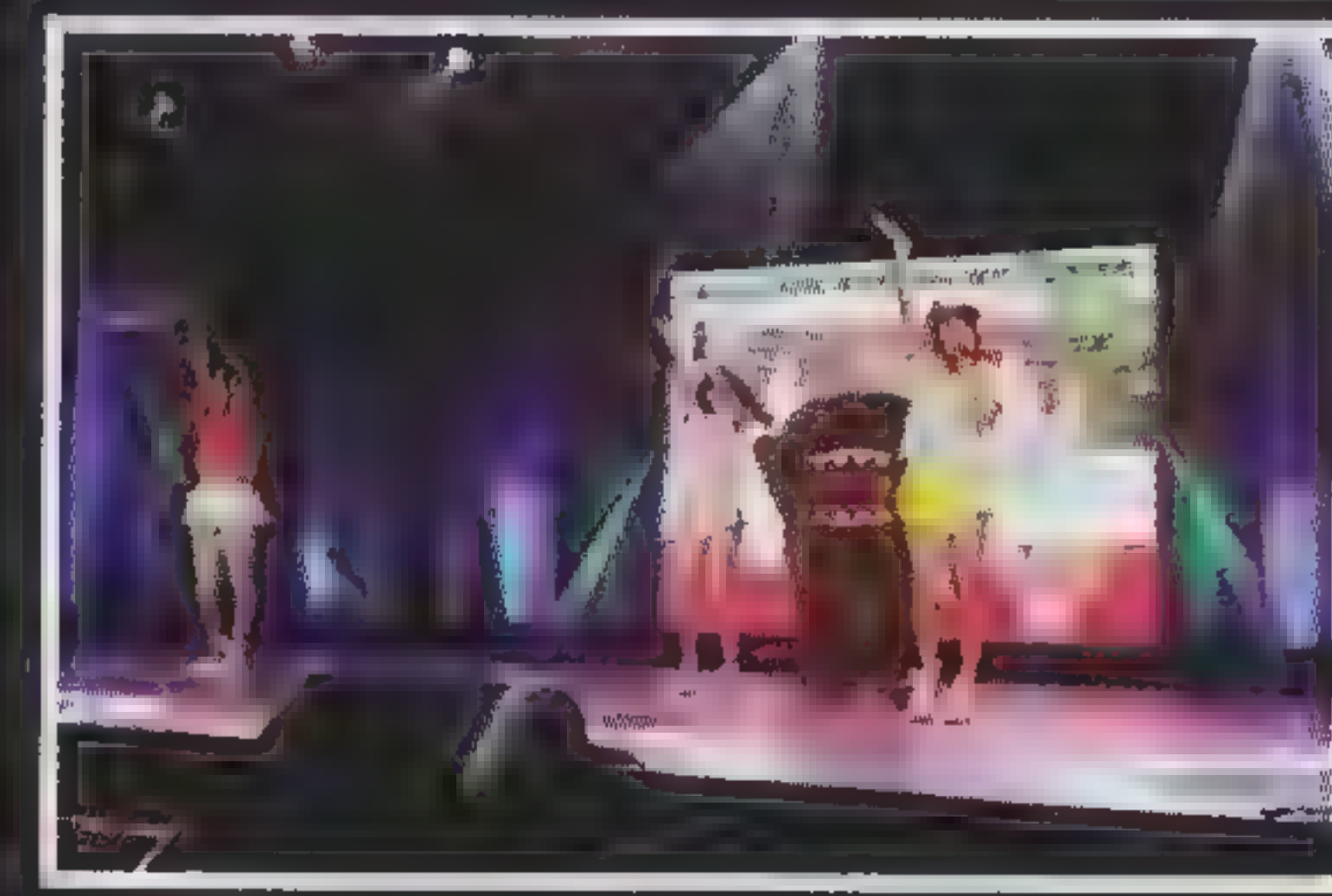
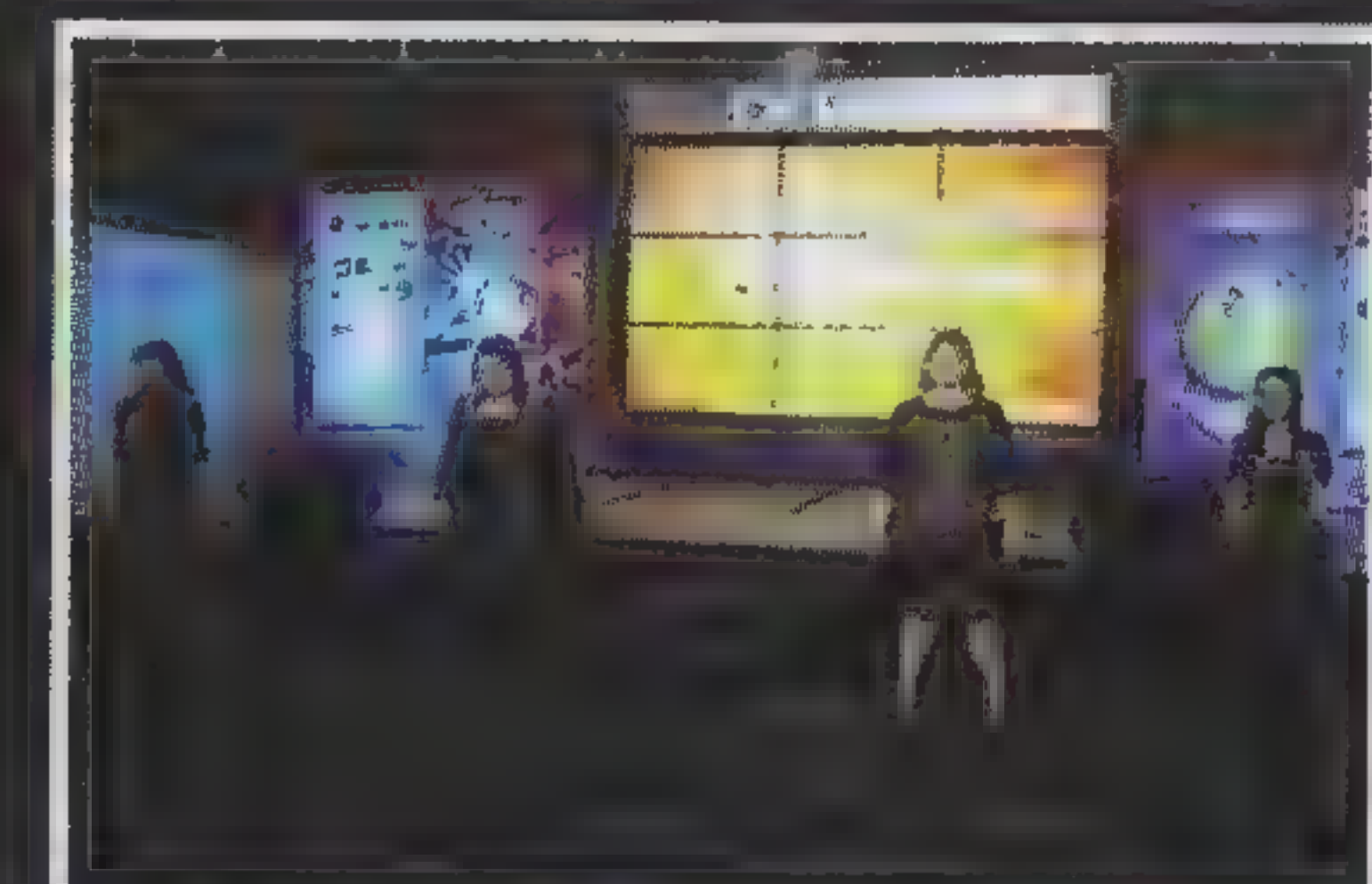
Lock & Leave was also there which was located outside the Function rooms to secure our bags while enjoying the event. Having them also reduces the chance of having cases of lost items and valuables. Their lockers are really big so you can share with a friend~



Cosplay Medics PH was also there to help us if our costumes suddenly malfunctioned or destroyed during the event. They will repair it for free~ They also have cosplay and anime stuffs that they sell for a low price.

New additions have been added in this year's event! The first one is that a new segment has been introduced called the Cosplay Mania x Littleakiba Cosplay Idol Group where the winner will win JPY50,000 cash prize! The second one is that there are a number of photobooths can be seen inside the event and also available for everyone during the event with different themes. Third, the popular Japanese movie No Longer Heroine was also featured during the event itself at the EX stage located at the Hall EX.

Aside from their annual Solo Cosplay Showdown and Cosplay Team Battle, they also have a cosplay competition where you won't be needing to perform onstage. All you need to do is register then wear the number ID for you to be identified by the secret judges. You'll be needing to act and portray your character during the event itself which is really fun and more challenging since you have to act as your character almost the whole day! I'm sure that congoers who knows the character would be really happy; that their favorite fiction character/s came to life.







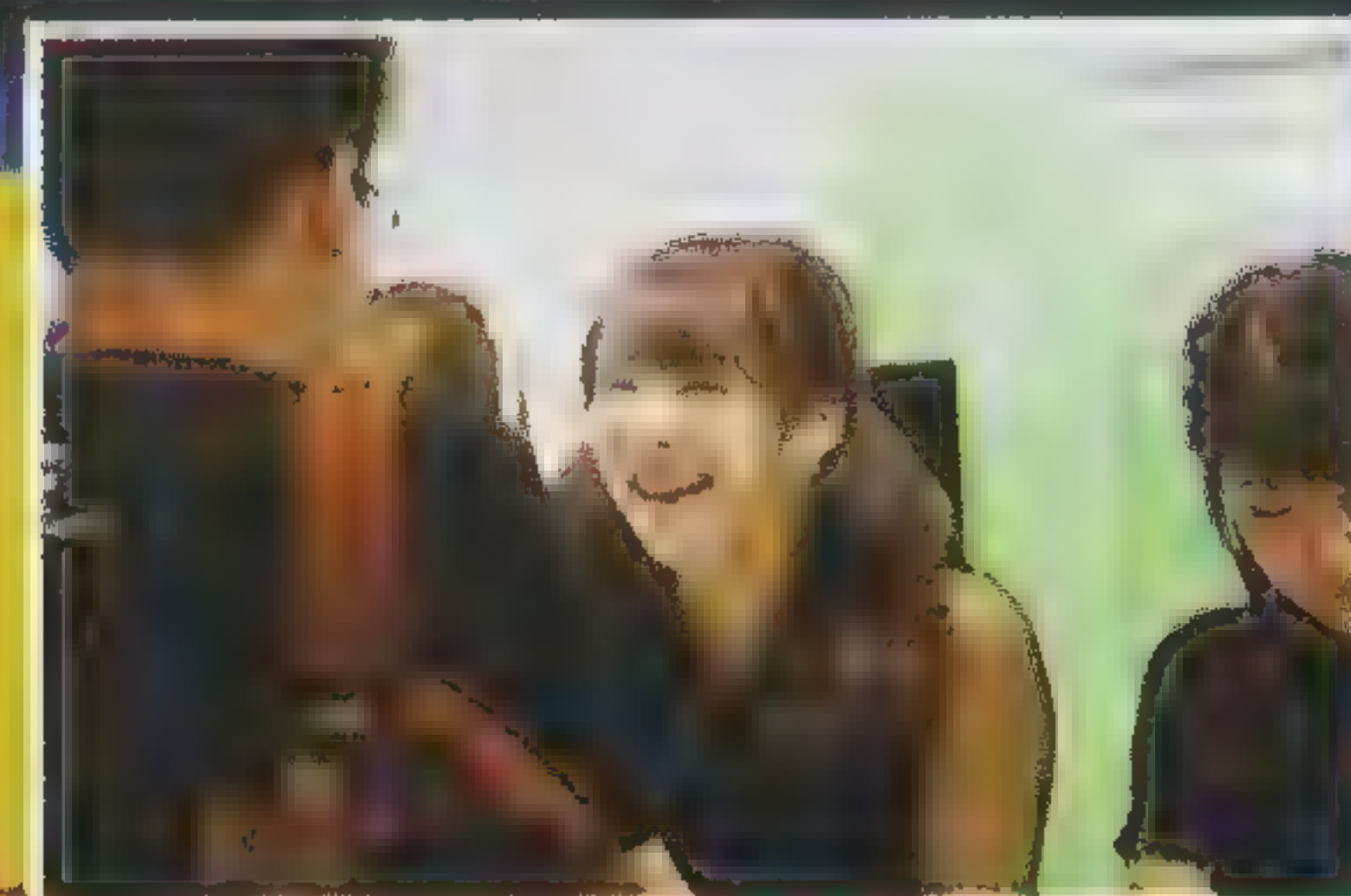
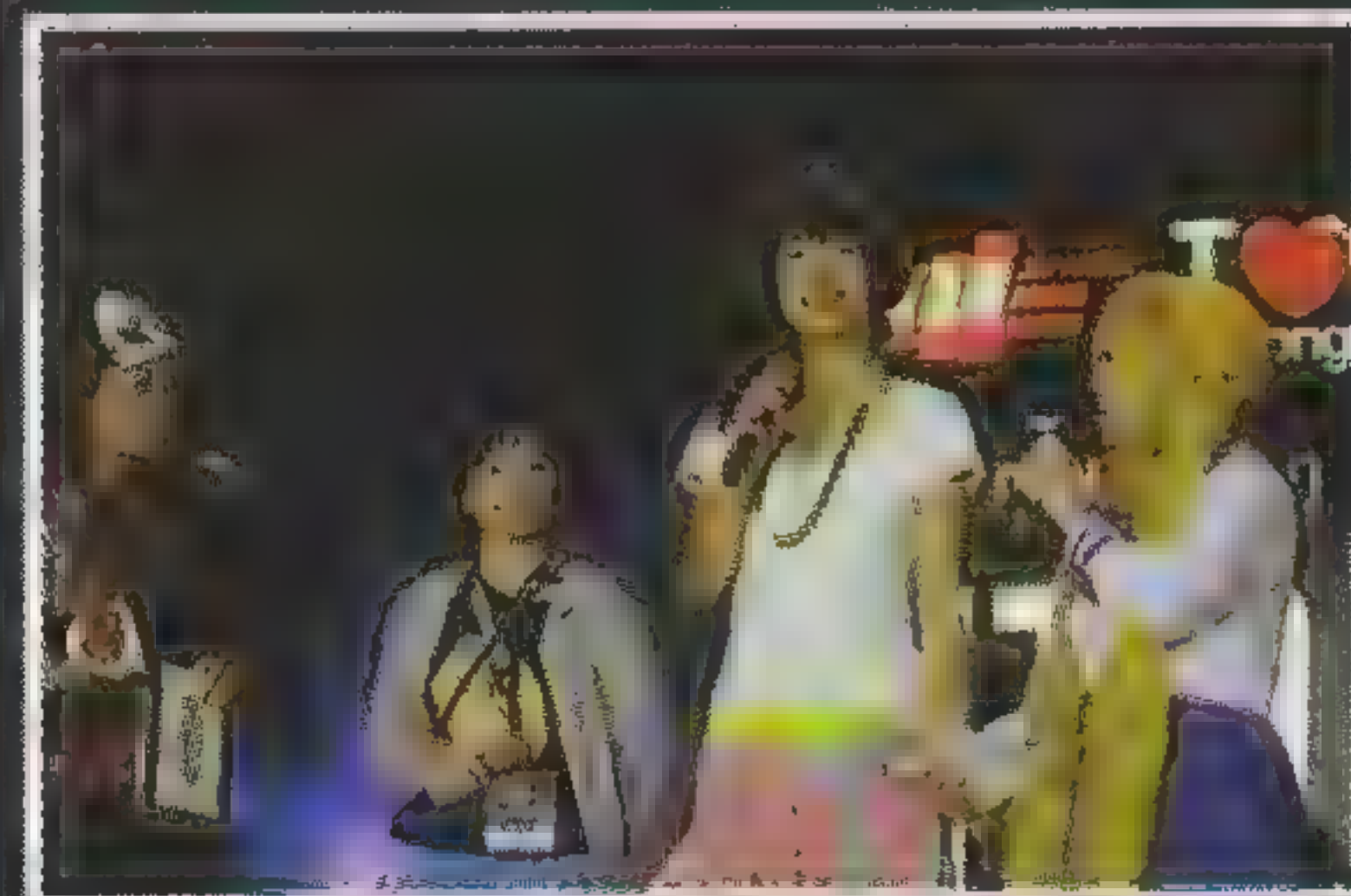
**SEE YOU AGAIN AT  
COSPLAY MANIA 2017!**  
SEPT 30-OCT 1, 2017



A good number of attendees went in the event to the point that it was crowded even outside the function rooms. Another thing that I've seen is that a good number of Mystic Messenger cosplayers can be seen during the event plus 707's favorite snack: Honey Butter Chips can be seen all over the Fanfair area.

This year's cosplay guest lineup where really good plus it's many compare these past few years. Prices for the meet and greet were reasonable and affordable. You can also purchase their goods during also the event and have it signed by them. The same with the JAM's guests, it's a totally different lineup since Cosplay Mania is in partnership with I <3 Anisong. I hope they bring also good guests here again next year~ But of course for them to be able to that, we need to support them by attending the concerts.

They have already announce the dates for Cosplay Mania 2017 so we have a good time earning money for the event: ticket, merchandise, guest meet and greet and of course JAM.



**COSMIC BYTES**  
COSPLAY SHOP

**FOR ALL YOUR COSPLAY NEEDS!**

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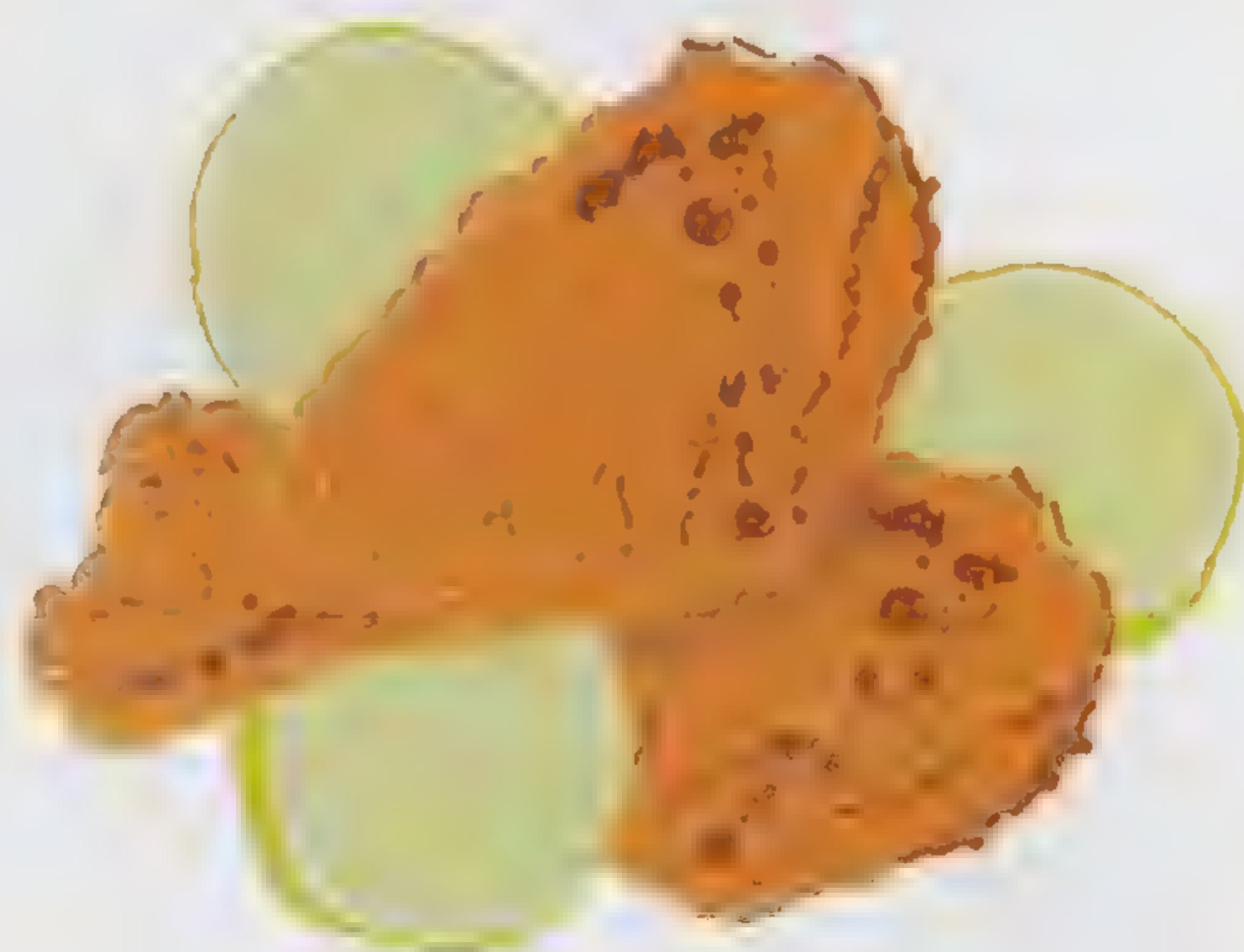




## LEMON CHICKEN

### Ingredients:

- 1kg boneless Chicken
- pepper
- salt
- 3 eggs
- cornstarch
- cooking oil
- sesame oil
- 5-6 pcs lemon fruit
- soy sauce
- chicken stock
- vinegar
- white sugar



### Procedure:

1. Marinate the chicken in Salt and pepper.
2. Beat the 3 eggs in a bowl then set aside. Put also the cornstarch in a bowl. Make sure that the chicken will fit in the bowl when marinating.
3. Dip the chicken on the eggs first then in the cornstarch then fry it immediately after.
4. Fry the chicken until it becomes golden brown and crispy then set aside.

### Honey Glaze

1. Get 1/3 of the oil being used in frying the chicken. Then add 1 tbsp of soy sauce, 1 tbsp of sesame oil, 1/2 cup of squeezed lemon juice, 1/2 cup of chicken stock, 1/3 cup of white sugar.
2. Get a half tbsp of cornstarch then dissolve it in a little amount of water. Stir it thoroughly then add it.
3. Stir until the sauce becomes thick.
4. Add the chicken on the sauce then stir until the sauce gets all over the chicken.

Then add slices of lemon and stir again.

## STRAWBERRY LEMONADE

### Ingredients:

- 8-10 strawberries
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 7 cups of water
- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 cups: squeezed lemon juice

### Procedure:

1. Blend the strawberries in the blender until no chunks were left.
2. Then add the remaining ingredients. Make sure to chill it first before serving.



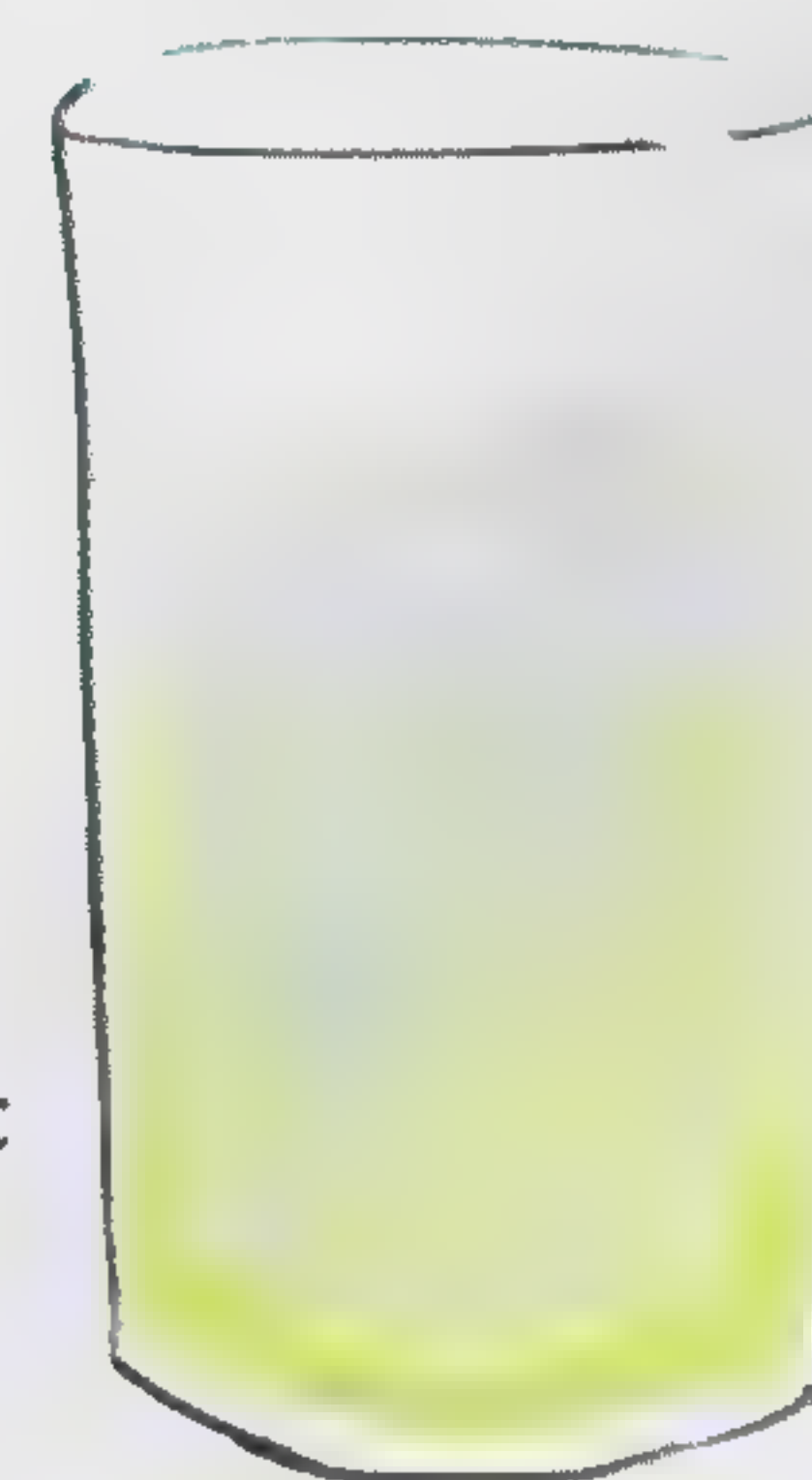
## LEMON SHAKE UP

### Ingredients:

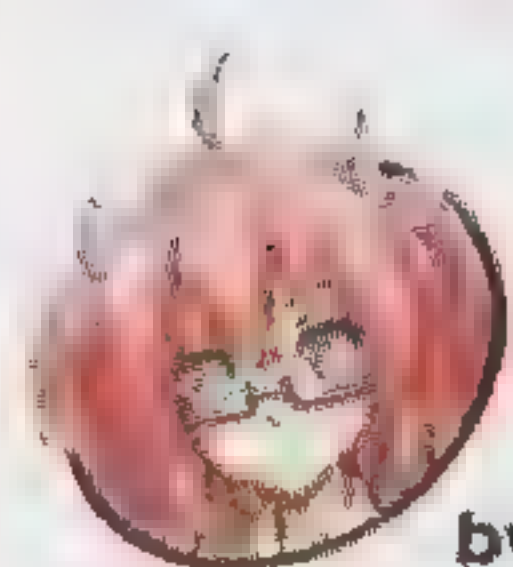
- 1 quart water
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- lemons
- ice

### Procedure:

1. Boil the water (boiling point). Then remove it from heat.
2. Stir it while pouring the sugar until it dissolves completely. Set aside, allow it to cool down. (this can last into the refrigerator up to one week)
3. Cut the lemons into two. Then squeeze it on each glass. [half lemon = 1 glass]
4. After that, fill each glass with ice then pour the sugar mixture. Enjoy~







## CON IN FOCUS

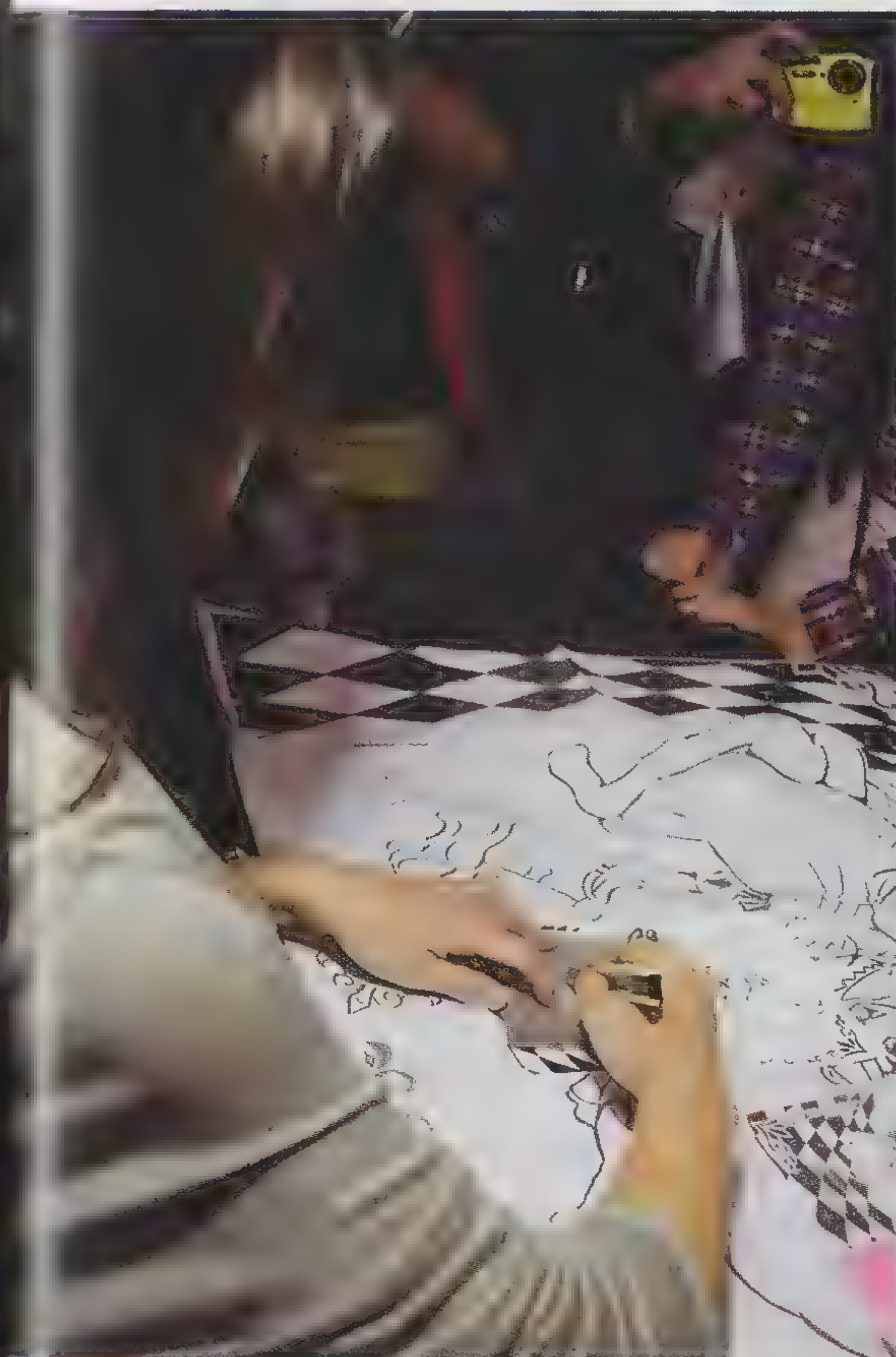
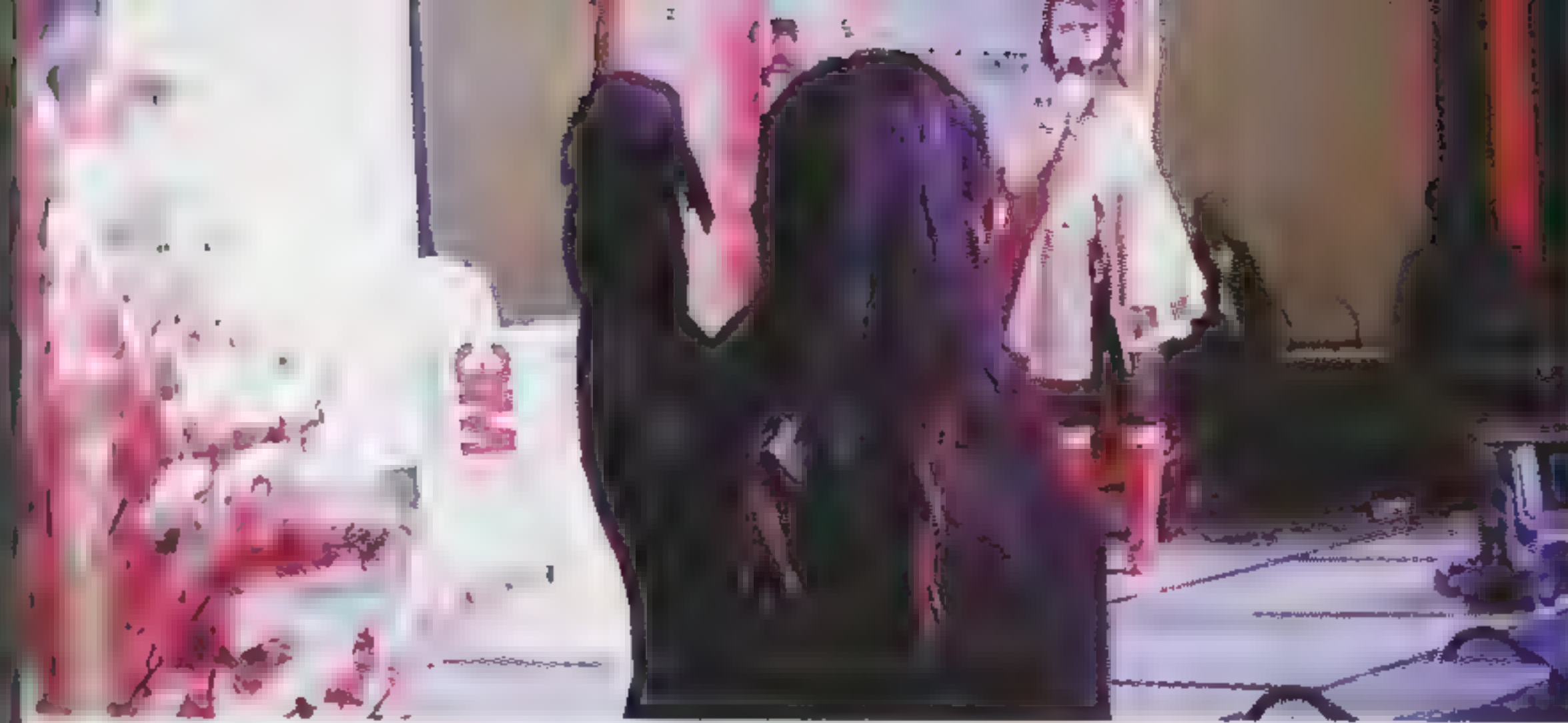
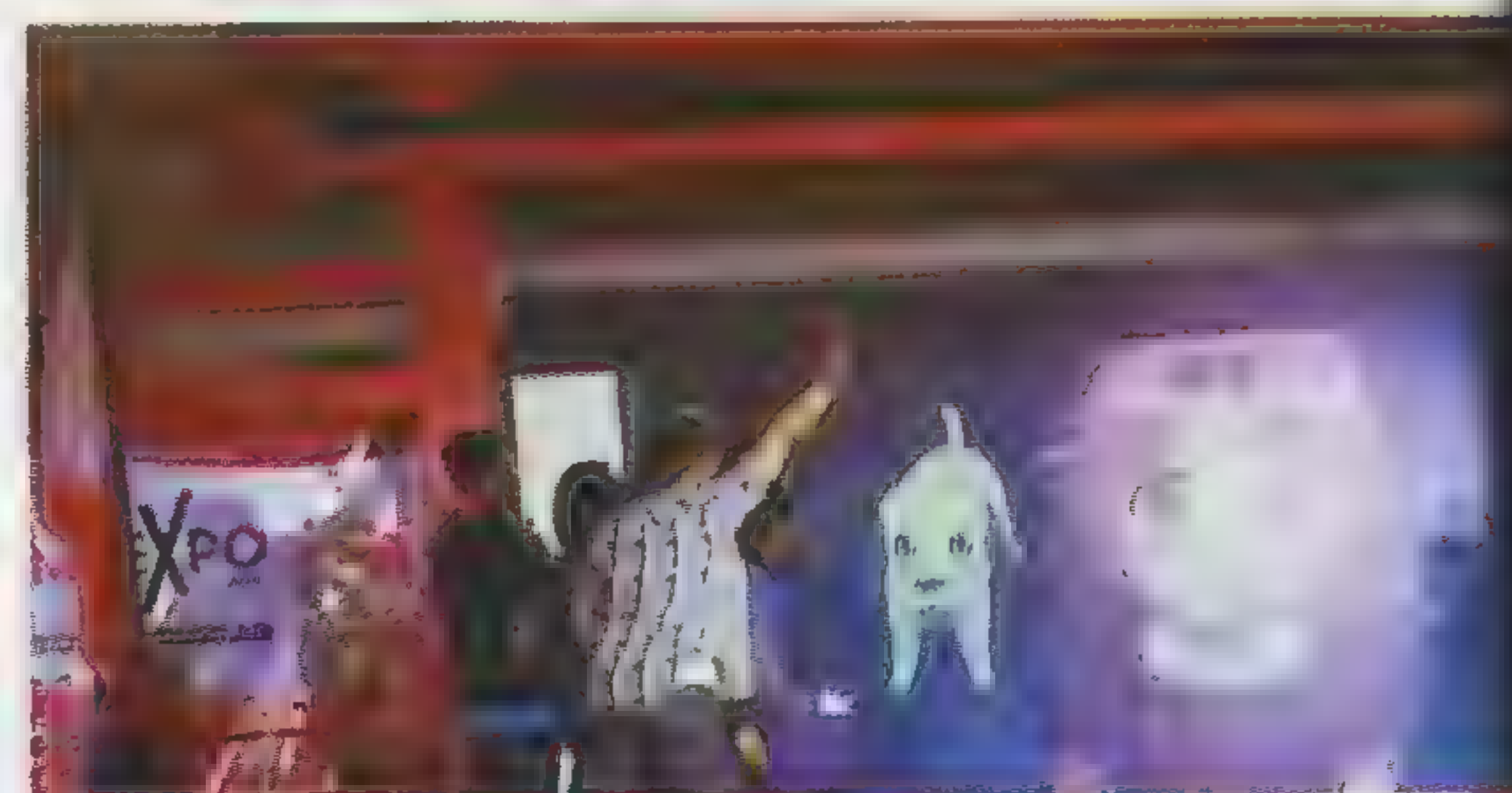
by kandy

Otaku events generally cater to anime enthusiasts while geek events call for the collectors and the fans of Western shows. Our partner, Unmei Nihongo Center created The Unmei Expo 2016: Career and Study Fair for Japanese Language Enthusiasts.

The biggest Japanese only-focused event for Japanese companies, Japanese language schools in Japan, Japanese language speakers, industry workers, translators, interpreters, tourist guides and enthusiasts was held last October 16 at the SMX Convention Center, SM MoA. From their page, THE UNMEI EXPO 2016 is a celebration of Japanese language and culture with a focus on the learners and speakers of the Japanese language. The main objective of the event is to bring the key players together in one venue for productive networking and linkages, creating and disseminating information for selected job seekers and employers, prospective students and partner schools in Japan.

THE UNMEI EXPO 2016 also aims to create a network base of talents, companies, organizations and Japan partners in preparation for the incoming and rising demand for Japanese language related jobs and services that will be beneficial to both the talents and the companies. And indeed, during the event, the air was very different from other events we have ben used to. The booths are mostly comprised of big companies both from Japan and for Japan. There were schools offering to study in Japan, companies offering multi-lingual BPO work for Japanese speakers and even Japanese ATM card offers for OFWs.

The event not only welcomed Japanese enthusiasts and otakus but anyone looking for work, career or scholarship in Japan. Their programme gave time to sponsors like Fujitsu, 3M and Accenture to promote their service and products. They were also very interactive and fun to watch. From



Osaka Bunka Kokusai Gakkou School, the audience learned Japanese animal sounds like mo mo, nyan nyan and kikii.

There were also fun games for the audience which was comprised of mostly Nihongo students. It was really fun to watch the Nihongo Henyo as they try words like sakura and tamago. Their Guess the Anime was also interesting because the contestants had to take a spoonful of calamansi juice before they give their answer and it gave us good *asim* faces. They also had one of the most interesting tutorial (well, for me since I love manga) from Yokohama Design College they demonstrated screentoning first hand and even let an audience try. From the same school, they taught how to wear male and female yukatas. It was very interesting since the process were both so different.

The booths also comprised of some school Japanese enthusiast organizations such as CDS Letran, UP Dilman, LB and Manila and Ateneo. I missed my alma mater even more (UST TNK was busy with prelims). They made attendees to play mini games on their booth and also sold a few merchandise. The food booths were also loved. Kyotako Takoyaki, Sweet Sisterakas and Yoshinoya beef bowls, Lemontastic and *kakanin*? They got it.

The most awaited event of the program was the **Uttatemi Anime and J-pop Karaoke Singing Contest** where the final thirteen hit it off in front of judges. Some of the distinguished judges include Naruto Cosplayers Japan founder, Mister Global Canada, Moira Lacambra and me! When I judged the contest it wasn't hard to find a favorite and I gave this contestant a 99/100 since they got me singing and dancing. Miss Jonannie Regacho Velasco was worthy of being the first Uttatemi Singing Champion.

They ended the event with a song and dance number where they asked all the attendees to dance the Koi Suru Fortune Cookie dance by AKB48. It was fun and very creative for an event to end it like so.



First of all, Otaku Asia would like to congratulate the organizers, NCPH and their sponsors for a wonderful event that we were a part of. We enjoyed every moment and every sakura tree that graced Function Room 1 almost every corner. Thank you for having us and we hope that you would give us a tap when you decide to continue next year this concept. It was such a new world for us and even when I frequent travel expos.

We enjoyed the program that wasn't too overwhelming nor too informative and dull. It was instead well balanced and timely. The sponsors were good to set a professional tone while the mini games set the light and fun emotions of the event and it set a good pace for the audience to follow. It also gave them time to roam around the room and visit the booths. While there was a small number of booths for the event, the quality of the partners and exhibitors was clear: they meant business. People came to the event intending to enrol in Unmei or in any of their Japanese partner schools. Travel booths were also very intent in getting you to Japan for good and affordable prices.

O-kun Fiesta's Karaoke Contest winner, Kevin was even given the chance to perform as guest and he rocked Unravel. Tutorials are getting popular after O-kun and it was wonderful to watch the tutorials that Unmei Expo had. While they were very simple, it was informative and interesting especially when a Japanese national is the teacher... erm, sensei.

This event really got me thinking if I should start studying Nihongo as well. Since JLPT just finished and one of our contributors passed her N5 exam (congratulations Lizac), I felt very convinced that I should start again as well.

Otaku Asia looks forward to next year if Unmei Nihongo Center plans to hold this event once more. We hope that they get more booths, partner schools and send more scholars to Japan yo! Nihongo rocks!!



where  
props  
look like  
real  
weapons



Contact Person: Miko Garcia Twitter: /TheSw0rdMaster  
Facebook: /TheSwordMasters Contact # 0935 665 6760





## STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE REINVENTED

By Ann

It's going to be 2017 very soon, and we decided you don't just need a change of date but also a change in the traditional strawberry shortcake. Get ready to whip up some fresh takes on this classic Christmas dessert in Japan!

Last time, we taught you how to make strawberry shortcake using ready-made mamon, but this time, let's talk about how else you can present this to your guests (or all to yourself). Here are some twists you can add to the original recipe:



### CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

You can never go wrong with chocolate! Instead of using the regular mamon for the shortcake, you can replace it with chocolate cake or chocolate-flavored mamon. In the supermarket, you can buy a package of oven-toaster ready chocolate cake mix. Like the classic, you only need to slice the cake, add the whipped cream (1 cup of cold whipping cream, ½ teaspoon vanilla extract, and ¼ confectioners' sugar mixed until thick in a stainless bowl over ice), and layer in alternates with slices of fresh strawberries.

For a sweeter cream, you can puree strawberries by cooking a cup of it with 1/8 cup of granulated sugar over medium heat, mashing them with a fork until they become thick. After cooling completely, they can be mixed in the whipped cream.

### CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Why not add a Filipino touch to this beloved Japanese dessert? Add in slices of ripe mango to the layer of strawberries. You can even add in other fruits that you prefer to further customize this. From bananas to raspberries, the list goes on and on, so go with what best suits your palate.



### GLAZED DONUT STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Of course, if you can substitute chocolate cake for the shortcake, you can also use donut! For a sweeter version, you can use glazed donuts. Simply slice the donut crosswise and "sandwich" your cream and strawberries. If you find that this is too sweet together, you can cut out the sugar in the whipped cream and let the sugar of the glazed donut take care of the rest.



### STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE ON A STICK

Apparently, desserts are now best served on a stick! As easy as it sounds, you'll only need skewers for this recipe. Cut your pound cake/mamon/sponge cake into bite-sized pieces and thread your ingredients together. Pierce a piece of cake with the skewer, layer it with some cream, pierce a slice of strawberry, and repeat until the stick is almost full.

### STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE WITH ICE CREAM

Since we taught you that you can substitute different flavours of cake for this, we'd love for you to try exchanging your whipped cream for ice cream! A dollop of strawberry ice cream or vanilla ice cream with your strawberry puree would give you just the right tinge of sweetness to complete your holiday smiles. Don't forget to serve this chilled and eat it right away!

It doesn't take much to make these cakes on your own because all you need to do is focus on how you want it to taste and look like. So, go ahead and keep reinventing strawberry shortcake for the holidays. Merry Christmas!







Hello Otafans! In this issue, we will teach you how to make a **SNOWY NIGHT BACKGROUND~**

Note: You can use this on Paintool Sai, Adobe Photoshop or Clip Studio Paint.

Let's get started!

## STEP 1:

Make a night sky gradient. You can use airbrush, blend tool and blur tool. First, color your full canvas with black then using airbrush, spray a tone of dark blue to light. Use blend or blur tool to make your canvas attain a gradient effect.



## STEP 2:

Make a new layer then add snow drops. You can use the pencil, pen or brush tool; just change its size from time to time. To avoid some edgy points, you can use the blur tool to make your snow drop smooth.

Optional: add sparky effect.

## STEP 3:

Draw 3 different trees similar to the image on the bottom. The big one would be the one on front color (white), the medium one will be at the center (color light gray) and the small one (color cool gray) would be at the farthest.



## STEP 4:

Add more details by adding more trees, snow and stars.

Note that this is the way I do things. You are not obligated to follow it strictly. You are free to experiment on your own and play with your techniques.

Now you can use the background for your Christmas artworks! I really liked how it turned out and perfectly blended to our Christmas illustration last year~



If you have suggestions for our next Art of Otaku tutorials just email us at:

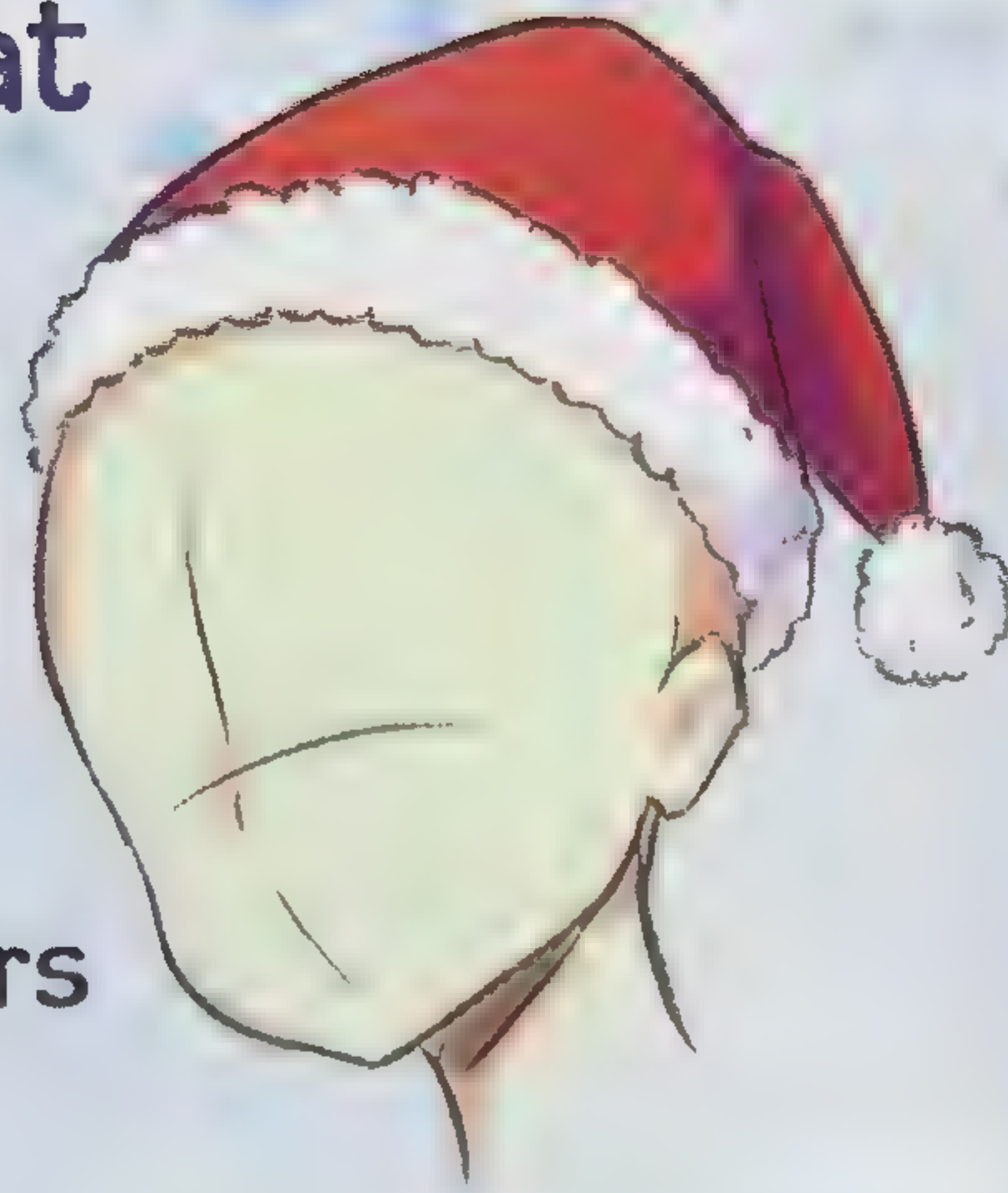
[otakuasiaanimemag@gmail.com](mailto:otakuasiaanimemag@gmail.com)



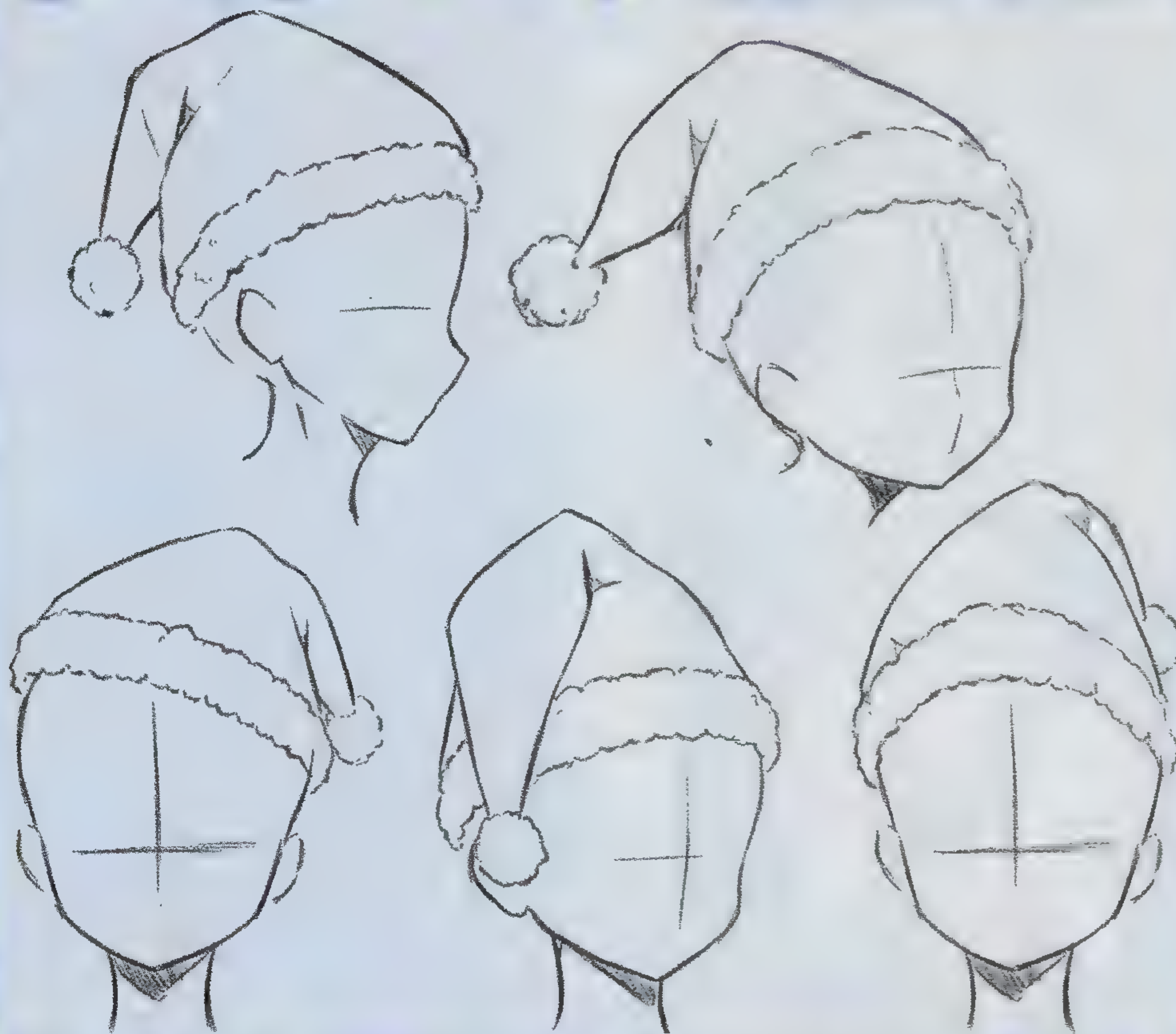
# Drawing Santa Hat

 base color

 +  shadow colors



## Different Angles~



Thai Tea Philippines



@thaiteaph



Available In:



LANDMARK  
Makati Trinoma



Cash & Carry







## Basic Patch Tutorial

by: Yani

For this tutorial, I will be using Boruto's Uzumaki swirl at the back of his jacket as a reference.

### Materials Needed:

- fabric (preferably thick)
- Pilon
- pins
- chalk marker
- thread
- Sewing machine that can do embroidery

or if you don't have one:

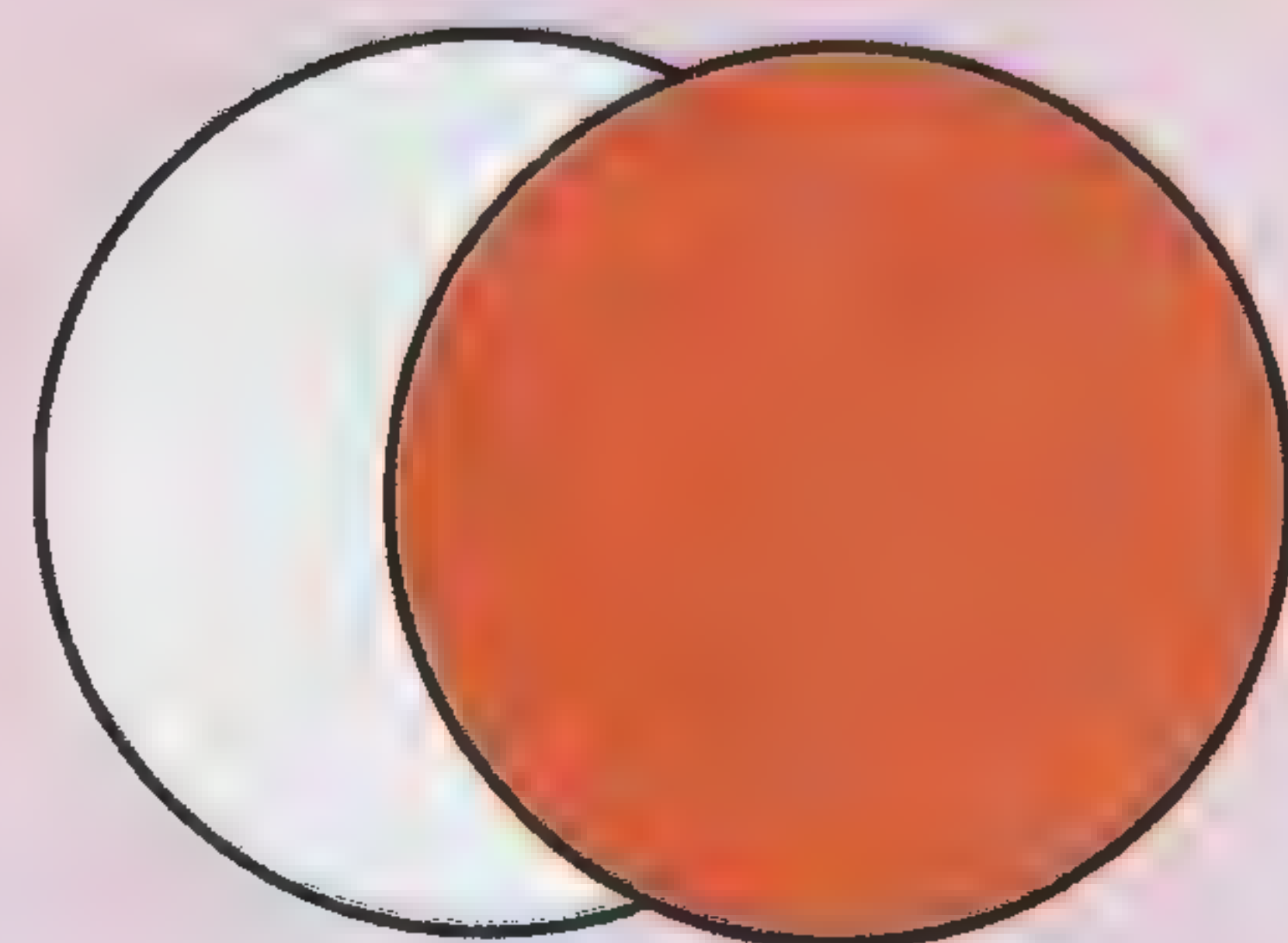
- red crochet thread
- needle where the thread will fit.

### Instructions:

1. Cut the fabric and the pilon of the shape of the patch that you are going to make. Please take note of the proportion and size of it.



3. Place it on the part of the costume/outfit the patch is supposed to be then put pins so it won't move when sewing.



2. Draw guidelines where the embroidery will be made. If there are 2 or more colors that will be embroidered, change also colors of the guidelines so it won't be confusing and you won't make mistake once you start embroidering it.



4. Sew the edges of the patch. Make sure that the thread that you will use is the same with the color of the patch.



5.1. Set your sewing machine into zigzag mode then adjust the distance and the thickness of the thread to your liking then sew. I recommend that your speed should be slow so that it will be not difficult to have curve lines if there are any.

### The Handsewn way~

[For those who don't have sewing machines that couldn't do embroidery]

Follow all the instructions from step 1-4 then resume at step 5.2.

5.2. Remember this thing? Thimble is a must need sewing tool for this step so that you won't poke yourself with the needle.



5.3. Sew the embroidery manually. It takes patience since the time doing this is really long. No spaces in between every stitch as much as possible and it must even. Doing this is definitely not suitable for those who will rush their costumes! So, start doing your costumes at least 3 months before the event where you will it~



# Petticoat Tutorial

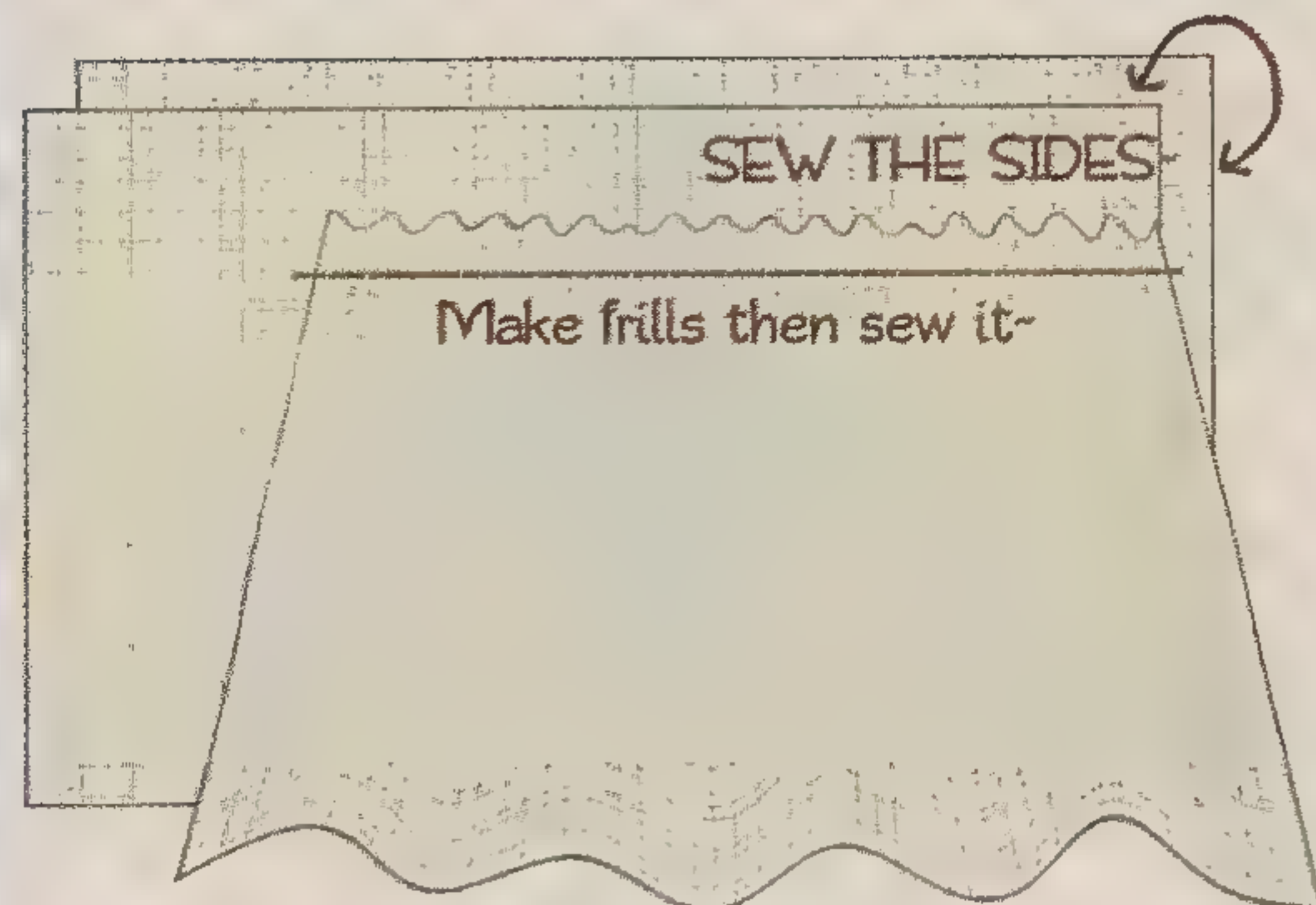
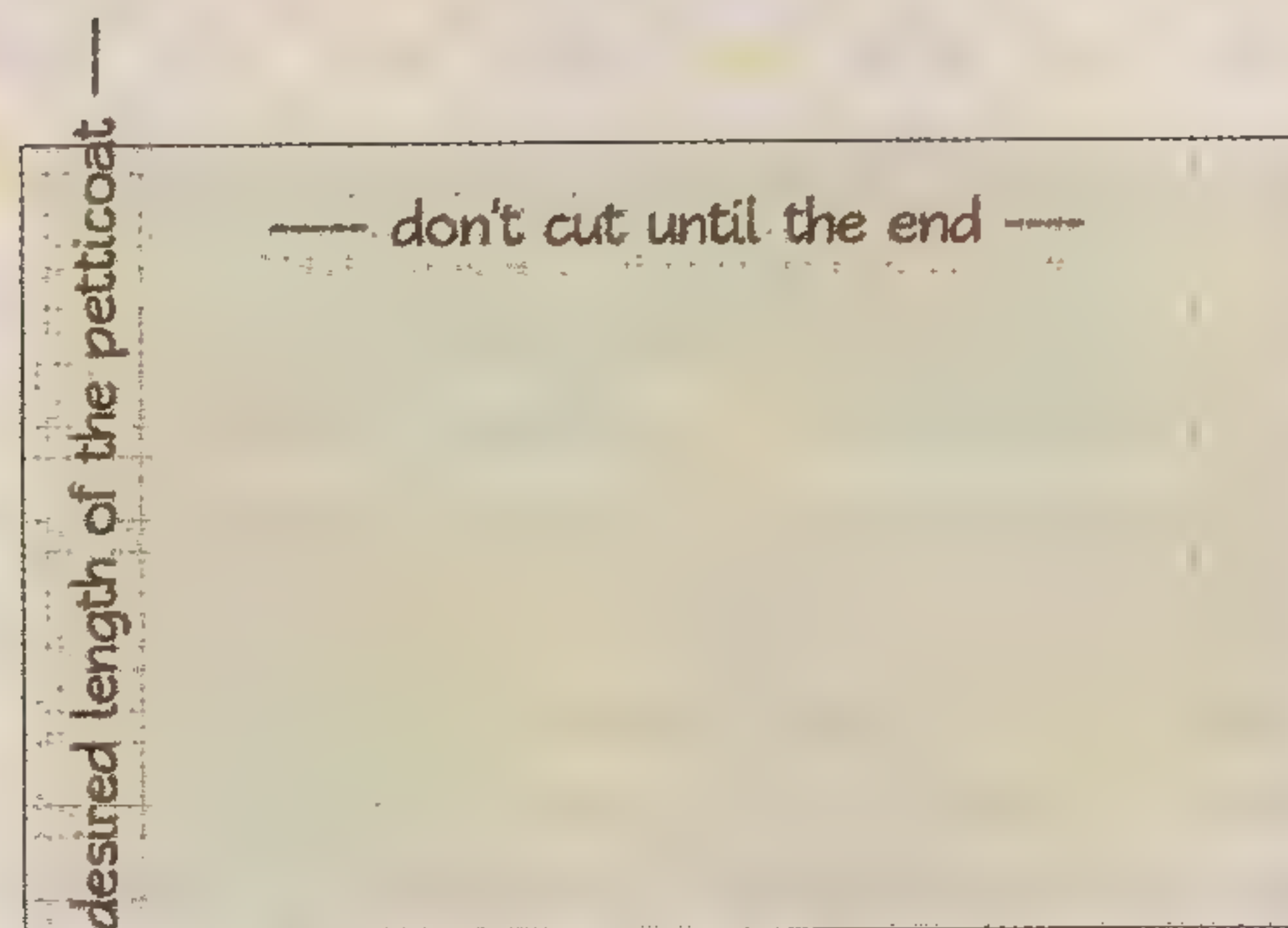


## Materials Needed:

- 4-6 yards of tulle (you can use any color you want)
- 1 roll of 1 inch wide ribbon (the color should be similar to the color of the tulle or if you want, you could change it)
- pins
- 1/4 yard of cloth
- hook and eye for skirts

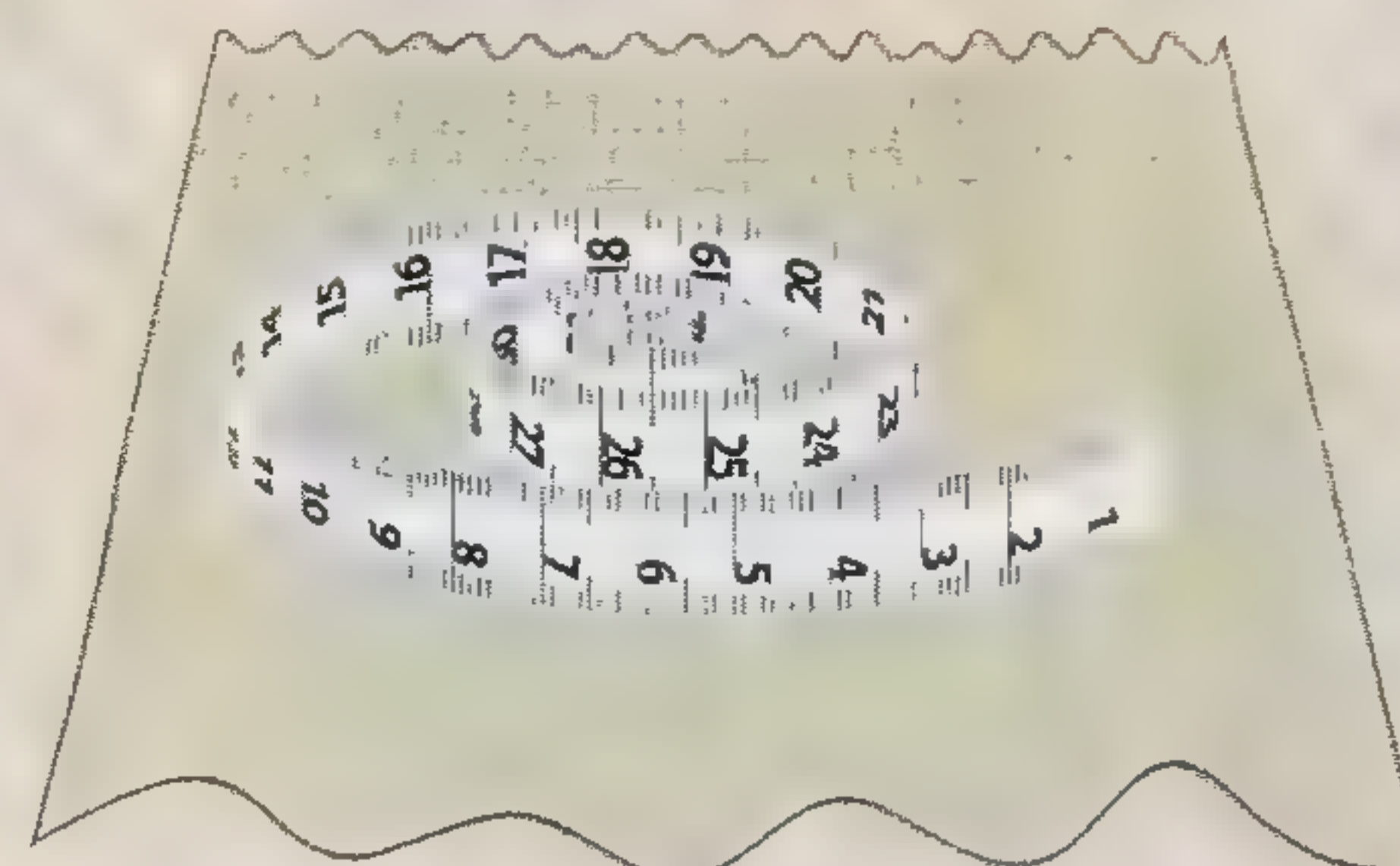
## Instructions:

1. Know your desired length of the petticoat then cut the tulle following the guide on the right. Cut all of the tulle if you want it really fluffy~



2. Sew the ends of the tulle so its really really long. Then make frills on the other end of it.

<- Waist length, add 2 inches ->

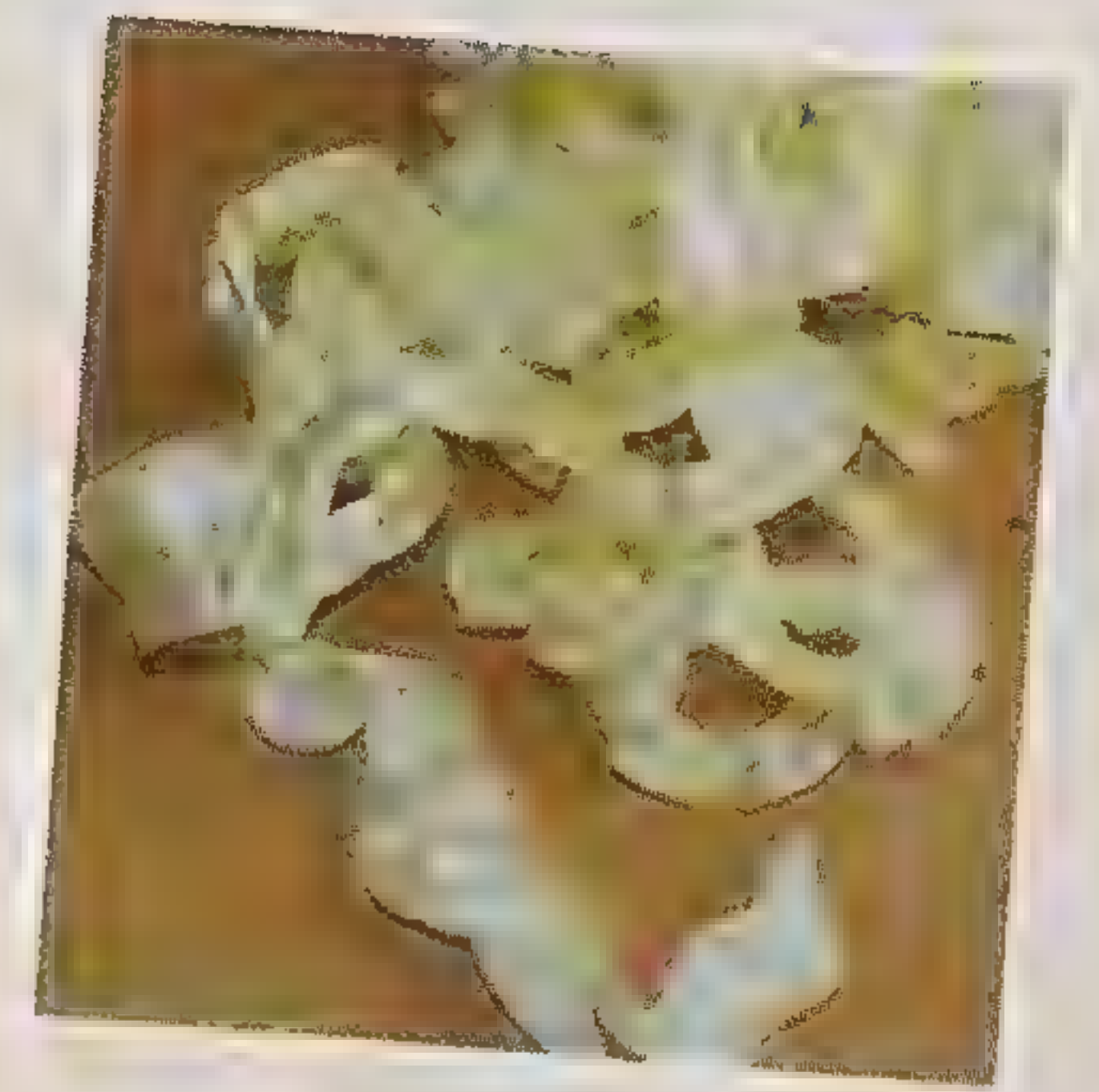


3. Know the length of your waistline then add 2 inches to it then cut. Please refer to the image on the right.

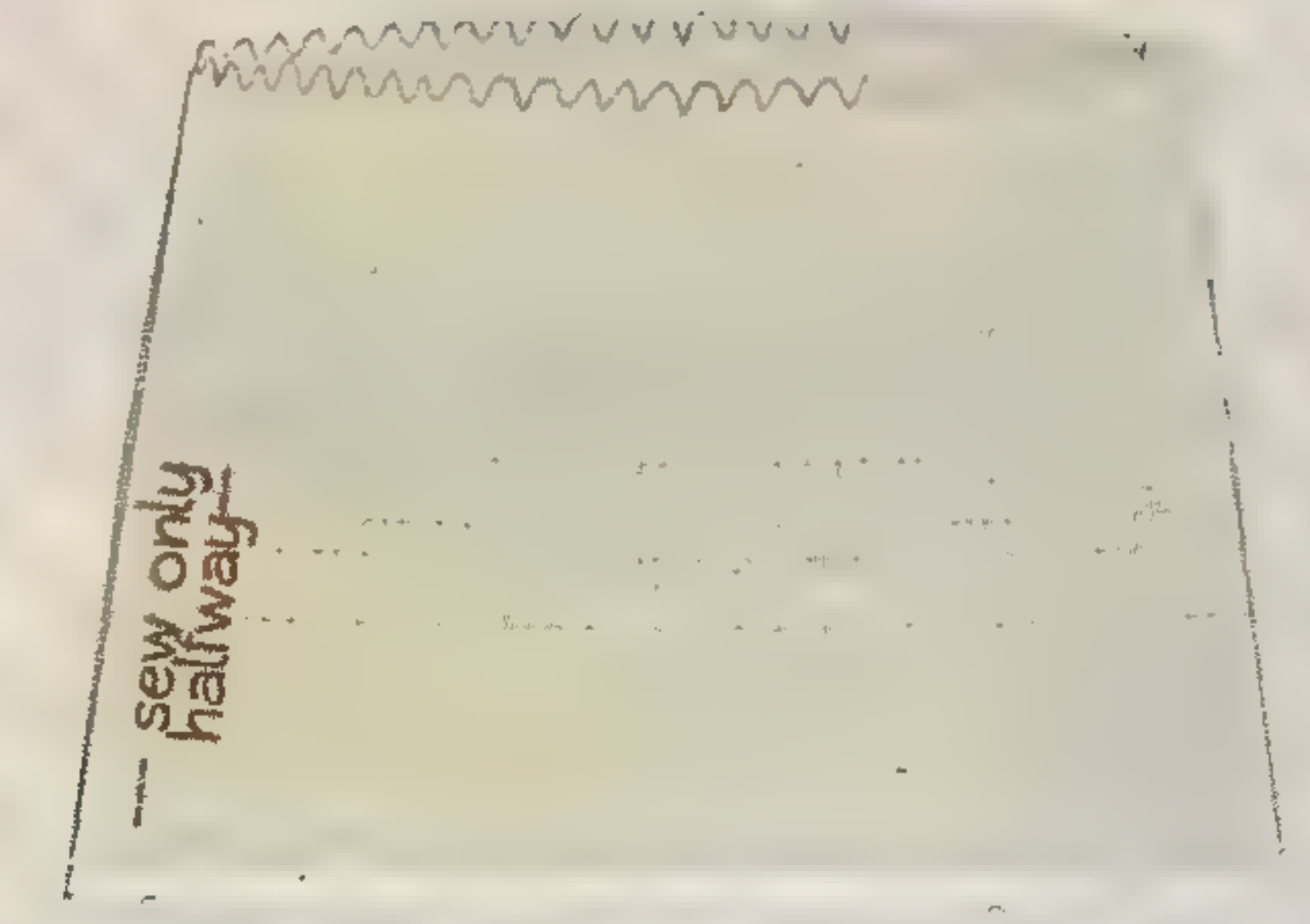
(remember to measure the tulle when it has already frills~)

4. It will be up to you how many layers you want you petticoat you have. The more the fluffier so I suggest doing number step until the tulle ran out.

Then get the roll of ribbon then make also frills to it similar to the image at the right.



5. Sew the frills on the ends of the tulle (the side which doesn't have frills.)



6. Then sew all of them halfway (starting with the side with the ribbon frills)



7. Get the cloth, measure it by waist line, add 2 inch X 4 inches. Fold it into 2 then sew it on the top part of the tulle



8. The last step! Sew the hook and eye on both end then you're done~ Petticoats give life in some of our costumes plus it can be used in multiple costumes~





# LET THE BRIDGES LIGHT UP! ENDUINS

Nations are divided by walls and differences in culture and languages, but this does not stop us from building bridges. Within cyberspace, a local community is fast ascending to create more of these bridges for different groups such as artists, writers, gamers, cosplayers, photographers, animators, graphic designers, and more!

Dubbed as

## "The #1 Digital Lifestyle portal in the Philippines"

Enduins started posting on its site this September, but its project has been in the works from 2015. From its posts this year, one can already see how promising this community is, taking on not only reviews and news, but also delving on body image and some personal views of cosplayers and gamers. This exemplifies how in-depth and relevant the coverage of its works are.

With sections for

## Gaming, Digital Arts, Photography, and Cosplay,

Enduins serves as a lighthouse in gathering different talents.

We asked its founder, Daryl Kervin Sanchez, some questions to know a little more about them:

**OA:**

**What are the challenges that your organization has faced and how are you overcoming them?**

**ENDUINS:**

Deciding which online community you want to focus on and what you want to present on those community can be challenging. [To resolve this,] we didn't spend too much time planning and building the business. We started to build a small community (Beta Group) in the fastest time so we can learn as soon as possible. [We collected] a small number of influencers to provide a source of feedback which can inform marketing and business decisions.

**OA:**

**How did these challenges further support you in your vision for the community?**

**ENDUINS:**

A Beta Group isn't about getting your ideal product (Site/Social Media), but getting your ideal customer, and then co-creating the next version from their feedback.

**OA:**

**In the near future, do you have plans to organize events? What are they, if any?**

**ENDUINS:**

Yes! There are many reasons why hosting an event is important for our business. Not only will they help you connect with existing and potential customers, but they will help you cultivate and build your relationships with them.

**OA:**

**What's your message to our readers about joining your community?**

**ENDUINS:**

Enduins wants to remove spam, junk, and useless content from social media and highlight truly creative and helpful articles, events, and stories. We are proud to support social communities by enabling them to exchange knowledge and explore opportunities together. We need to make sure future generations do not believe every single thing they read online. We have far too much trust in the internet and technology, and that is scary.

Recently, it joined the AsiaPOP Comicon Manila and partnered with Metal Pen Art Group. Indeed, with its name that means "ENGage, eDUcate, INSpire" and genuinely represents its core values, Enduins has just begun paving the way for this greater social community consisting of talent, brains, and heart. Watch out for the stronger foundations Enduins.com is building online!



[www.enduins.com](http://www.enduins.com)



/enduins



# GATSBY

LONG LASTING PERFUME  
**URBAN COLOGNE**  
New Fragrance Collection for Men

## FIND YOUR GATSBY SIGNATURE SCENT

Every man needs a signature scent that shows off his personality. Gatsby Urban Cologne collection are fresh, clean, bold fragrances with an urban edge recommended for daily use.



### **BOLD SPIRIT**

A warm note combining spicy and rich aroma creates an active and adventurous image



### **LUXURY AIR**

A warm and tranquil note incorporating aromatic freshness creates a calm and forward-looking image



### **CLEAR MIND**

A refreshing note combining clear citrus and fruity notes creates jovial yet elegant



### **SECRET STYLE**

A modern note incorporating a hint of fruity note creates a cool and stylish image



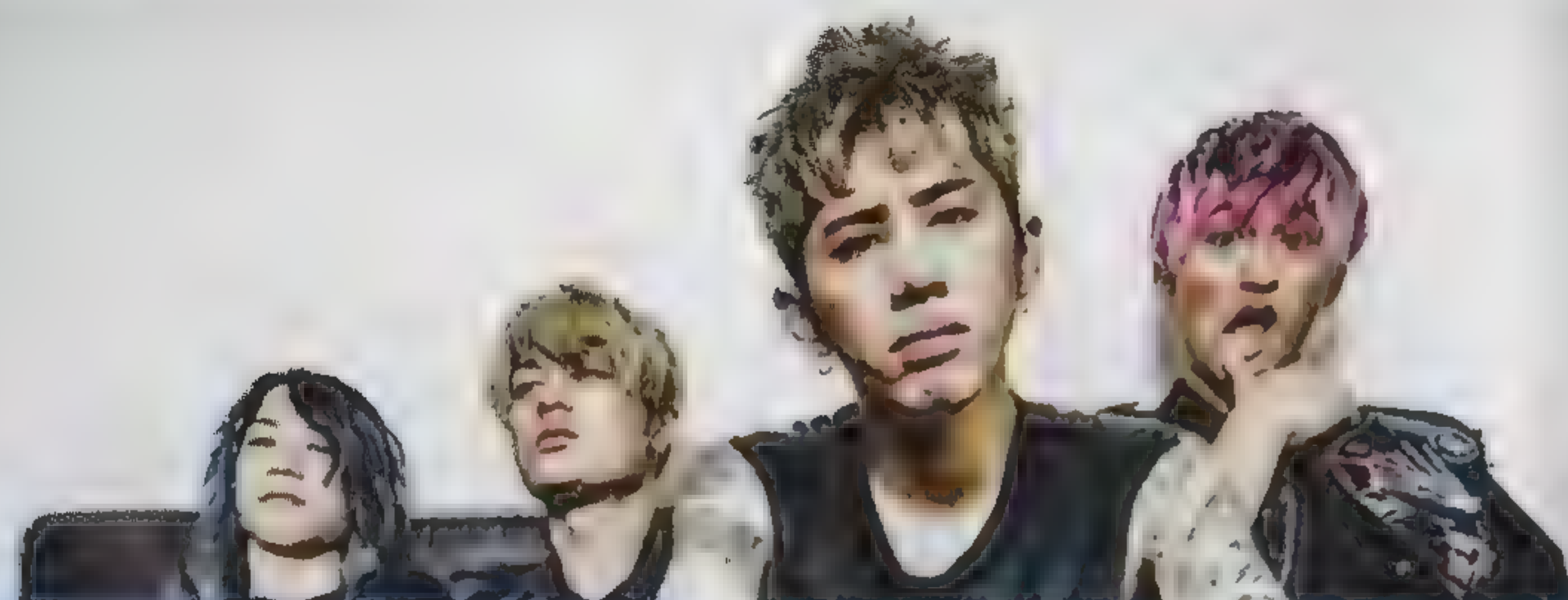
### **PERFECT SENSE**

A deeply spicy and cool note creates a smart and cultivated image



# 2016 YEAR END REPORT

It's like it was just yesterday that we were watching the greats like Hai To Gensou no Grimgar or remember when Koro Sensei was alive? Oh the times... But now we get to look back to what has made our year so great!



## MUSIC

### ONE OK ROCK

Don't you think that their win at the MTV EMA as the Best Japan Act is enough proof of One Ok Rock's awesomeness? The band has also recently signed with Fueled by Ramen along with their release of TAKING OFF which also entered No.6 in the MYX Daily Top 10 International.

Runner up: **HIKARU UTADA**

She made sure to return with a bang, Hikaru Utada's Fantome is her first album in six years and rewrote the rules of modern J-pop. Slay.

## GAMING

### OVERWATCH

Call them over rated, Overwatch is the game of this year. While being so obviously otaku, the game stayed at the height of the charts.

Runner up: **POKEMON GO!**

So no one might be playing anymore but there is still something to say about this one hit wonder and that is GO.

## MEMES

### PPAP SONG

This section was not included in last year's report because no one was worthy but this year we have Piko-Taro to thank. Did you hear? They also made a full version and Bubble Gang, some Italians and Ryuk of Death Note made their parodies.

Runner up: **HIROKI OGITA**

Though not 100% a meme, the athlete's attempt in Rio 2016 Olympics was the talk of the town thanks to his manhood.



## MANGA

### BLACK CLOVER

It's not everyday that a manga would be getting an anime almost after it's release. Black Clover is a story about two orphans Asta and Yuno who both aspire to become Magic Emperors. The catch is, there can only be one.

Runner up: **BORUTO**

Naruto's story might be over but it will be quickly picked up by none other than his son, Boruto!





© Jovi Claire

COSPLAY LOCAL

IZABEL CORTEZ

Just another example that girls get things done is our very own Harley Quinn! This has truly been her year as she even took over events with her Ultima Weapon cosplay! Woot woot!!

Runner up: AE RI

She does not stop, does she? After becoming the official distributor of Worbla in the Philippines, she has improved and won as the Grand Champion Crafter last STGCC as Lich from FF IX.



CHARACTER FEMALE

REM

How could she not be our best girl? Just how?? What is left for us to do but beg for more seasons just to see where her story goes from now.

Runner up: SHIRAYUKI

Our hard working, red haired medic is here and will not let you down with her heart warming love story.



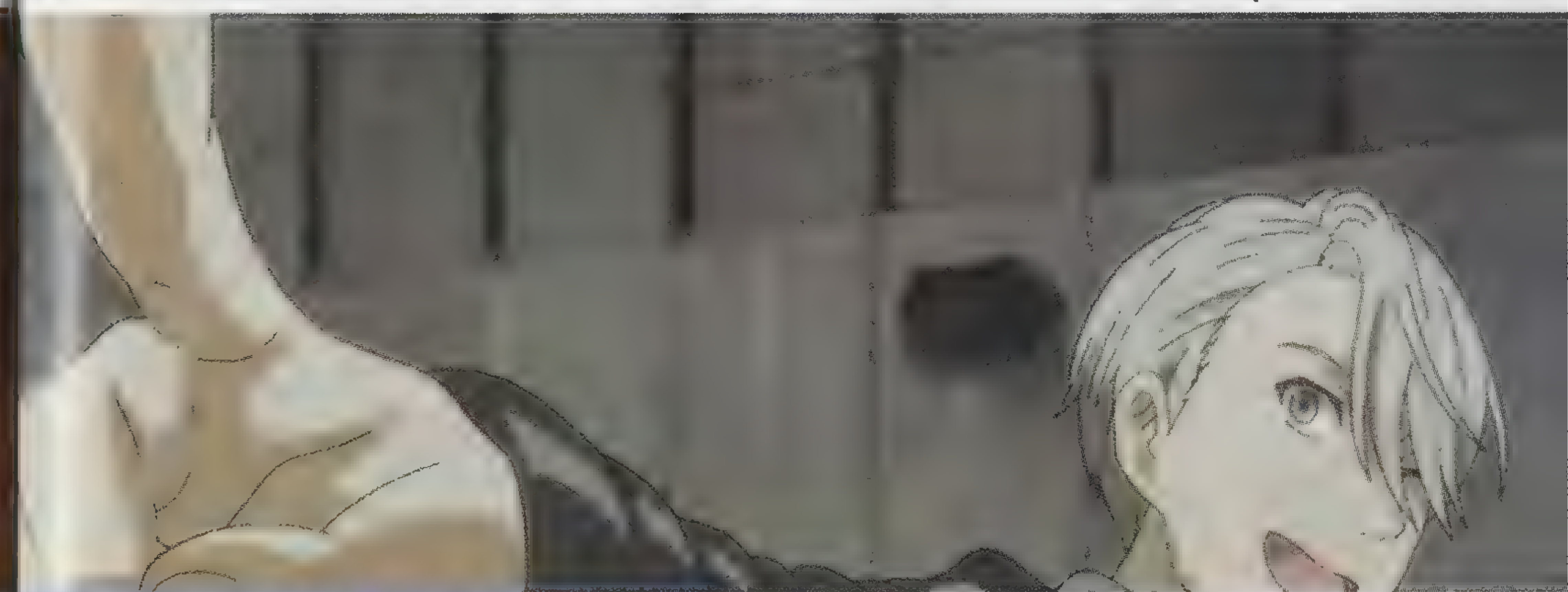
COSPLAY INT'L

MON

The best Kotori cosplay in our hearts and now also our favorite Emilia cosplay (she did all the versions!). We look forward to having her in the country one day.

Runner up: HANA & BAOZI

Yaoi is alive in the country and their continued popularity is also thanks to their photobook distributor, CosMerch PH.



CHARACTER MALE

VIKTOR  
NIKIFOROV

Despite being the prince on ice, he melts our hearts. Ice daddy. Wait. What? Well, he inspired many to try ice skating.

Runner up: DAZAI OSAMU

When Bungo Stray Dogs S2 started, who would have thought that we would be seeing Dazai's past? Well, having two seasons in one year made this detective very very popular.



WINTER



# BOKU DAKE GA INAI MACHI

Kono Subarashii Sekai  
ni Shukufuku wo



Akagami no  
Shirayukihime



SUMMER



# LOVE LIVE! SUNSHINE!

Shokugeki no Souma  
S2



Tales of Zesteria the X



SPRING



# RE:ZERO KARA HAJIMERU ISEKAI SEIKATSU

Bungou Stray Dogs



Kiznaiver



FALL



# YURI!! ON ICE

Bungou Stray Dogs S2



Haikyu!!  
Karasuno High School vs  
Shiratorizawa Academy





# IN MEMORIAM

As a thank you for their contributions to our wonderful world, we remember them.

## KOUJI WADA

(42) April 3

Remembered for his performing theme songs for the Digimon anime franchise. His major debut came in 1999, when he performed the theme song "Butter-Fly" for Digimon Adventure.

## YUKO MIZUTANI

(51) May 19

Mizutani is most well known in Japan for playing the elder sister character Sakiko Sakura in the Chibi Maruko-chan television anime series.

## MANABU DAISHIMA

(45) July 30

Daishima has done graphic design work on numerous Squaresoft (later Square Enix) games, including monster design for Romancing SaGa, field graphics for Chrono Trigger, field map design for Final Fantasy IX, 3D map design for Dirge of Cerberus: Final Fantasy VII, and 3D map and background design for Final Fantasy XII.

## KAZUNARI TANAKA

(49) October 10

Tanaka voiced roles in such anime as Haikyuu!! (Keishin Ukai), Planetes (Hachimaki), Marmalade Boy (Tsutomu Rokutandou), Hell Teacher Nube (Katsuya Kimura) and Code Geass: Lelouch of the Rebellion (Shinichiro Tamaki).

## MAKIKO FUTAKI

(58) May 13

The Studio Ghibli animator first worked with co-founder Isao Takahata on Jarinko Chie in 1981, and then with Hayao Miyazaki in Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind.

## YASUSHI NIRASAWA

(58) February 5

The creature designer, modeler, and illustrator worked on such anime as Vampire Hunter D: Bloodlust, Guilstein, Hells, Bleach the Movie: Memories of Nobody, Zetman, and Iron Man: Rise of Technovore.

## MICHIYUKI KAWASHIMA

(47) October 9

"BOOM BOOM SATELLITES's vocalist Michiyuki Kawashima set off on the next stage of his journey. His passing is not a tragedy, but the achievement of a lifetime goal and a happy ending." - Bassist, Masayuki Nakano.

GK  
CONTEST 2016

Champions are Born

E2046

Figure



Serafin Germany

Robot



蔚蓝 China



1st Runner Up  
tomcat  
Germany



1st Runner Up  
tomcat  
Germany



2nd Runner Up  
dianahase  
Germany



2nd Runner Up  
mennie  
Thailand

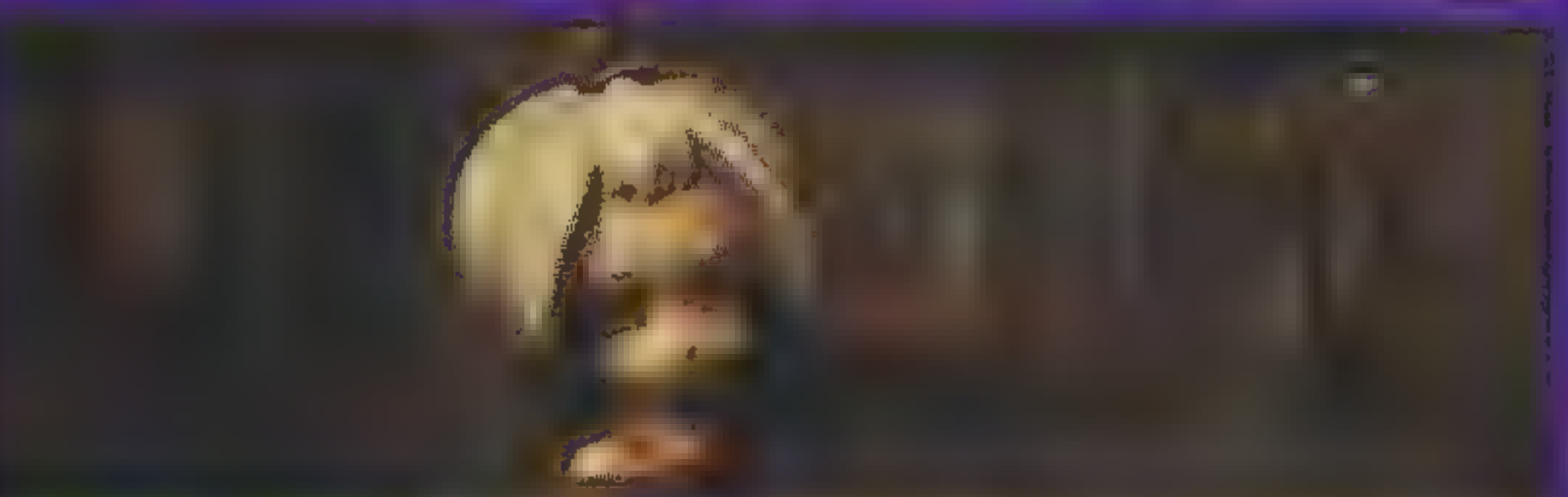
Diorama



freakstyle Russian Federation



1st Runner Up salva Spain



2nd Runner Up Ksana Russian Federation





# 魔法少女育成計画

magical girl raising project



## MAGICAL DEATH ARENA

Mahou Shoujo Ikusei Keikaku

by Reikisha

### REVIEW

Koyuki Himekawa loved magical girls and aspired to become one ever since she was young. She is also one of the players of a popular social network game called "The Magical Girl Raising Project"—which is rumored that it allows one every tens and thousands of people to become a genuine magical girl. One day, Koyuki was finally chosen to become a magical girl of her dreams, granting her superhuman capabilities as well as a special ability unique to every magical girl. However, her role as a magical girl is quite different from what she imagined.

At first, 16 magical girls race to collect more "magical candies" than their competitors, but the administration quickly changed the rules. They decided to cut the number of existing magical girls to 8 and the way to settle it is by killing each other for survival.

**Magical Girl Raising Project (Mahou Shoujo Ikusei Keikaku)** is a 2016 fantasy thriller anime series by Lerche Studios. It's based from the original light novel by Asari Endou and Maruino. The series first aired on October 2 and is scheduled to have 12 episodes by December 18.

Back then, the "Magical Girl" genre always portray normal girls who can transform into beautiful warriors fighting against evil. Now, most of the Magical Girls we see in modern anime are no longer fighting for the sake of love and justice. What more if the said girls are fighting for their own survival?

Magical Girl Raising Project takes the corrupted magical girl genre up to eleven by not only showing that there are magical girls with a set of personal goals in mind, but will also kill others in order to achieve it. Even Koyuki, who is portrayed as the purest magical girl among them, was hinted that she is also capable of staining her hands with blood when necessary.

This is definitely not something that you should recommend to young girls who likes to dream, but if you're interested to see how far these girls will go for their own goals both as a magical girl and as a person, check out the Magical Girl Raising Project this season!





# フリップ フラッパーズ

## PURE ADVENTURE!

Flip Flappers

by Reikisha

### REVIEW

Kokona is an ordinary school girl who still ponders about what her future career would be. Her meeting with a strange girl named Papika allowed her to experience being in a dimension that is beyond human understanding. They refer to the dimension as "Pure Illusion".

These girls are tasked with searching for the "Shard of Mimi"—a mysterious crystal that is said to be capable of granting any wish.

Join Kokona and Papika as they take you on a bizarre adventure in a world filled with dangerous elements that will give them a hard time on their quest.

Flip Flappers is a 2016 anime series produced by Infinite and animated by Studio 3Hz. It was first announced at the AnimeJapan convention as a new original anime project last March 25. The series began airing on October 6, 2016.

Flip Flappers is one of the shows that likes to confuse its viewers on its first episode. There are so many things revealed at once, but little information was provided so it's up to the viewers on how to interpret each scene. Not to mention that the show's pacing is a bit fast for one to have a full grasp of what's happening with Kokona and Papika's adventure.

The setting appears to be lighthearted judging from the animation style. However, the overall atmosphere makes one to think of the opposite, especially when the show did have some disturbing moments that might add more confusion to the viewers.

Overall, Flip Flappers is not a bad anime series. It may be confusing to watch at first, but as the story progresses, everything that was revealed as early as episode one will start to make sense now.







# 奇異太郎少年の妖怪絵日記

## KIITAROU SHOUNEN NO YOKAI ENIKKI

by Mikelle

Living independently requires a great deal of courage and determination; it could be viewed as a noble hurdle that tests our resolve. Nevertheless, many individuals greatly desire solitary living as it may be the key to towards their long awaited freedom. But what if you suddenly get impeded by a mysterious individual that threatens your path to that said freedom? Would you eliminate the threat or would you be able to compromise instead?

With not much of a choice, **Kiitarou** was forced out of the house due to disobeying his uncle. Oddly enough, he soon found a place to live but another individual was already occupying the supposedly empty home. The mysterious individual turns out to be a zashiki warashi youkai name **Suzu**. Thus starts Kiitarou's daily life with Suzu and the other youkai that frolics upon their humble home.

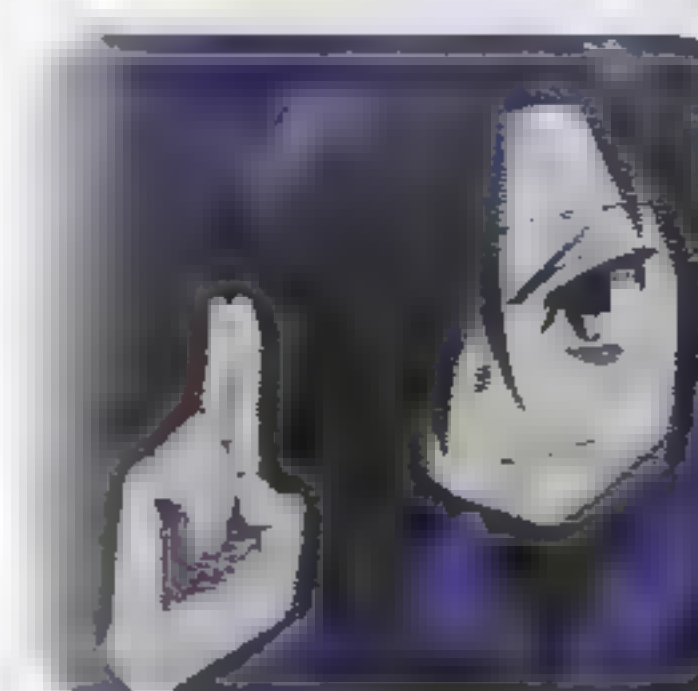
**Kiitarou Shounen no Youkai Enikki** (Young Kiitarou and His Youkai Picture Diary) is a supernatural comedy anime shorts from **Creators in Pack** studio which premiered during the Fall 2016 anime season. The anime is an adaptation of **Reiichi Kageyama's** web manga of the same title.

The web manga was first posted online on October 2008 and was later compiled with a total of seven volumes by **Micro Magazine Comics** in 2011.

It was only hinted in the anime but in the manga version; the reason **Suzu** ended up as **Kiitarou's** house cleaner is due a contest between the two at the start of the story. **Suzu** loses the bet and **Kiitarou** took her in as the house keeper.

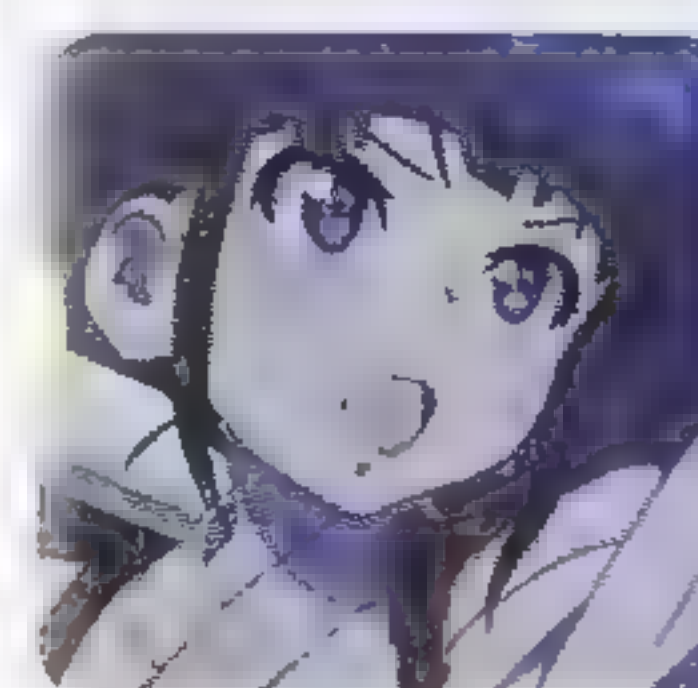
As per the title, the anime tells the story of **Kiitarou's** picture diary encounters with various youkai that he and **Suzu** stumbles upon. The pacing might be a bit fast due to being an anime shorts that runs a duration of 4 minutes per episode, but don't let that stop you from trying out this amazing show.

**Kiitarou Shounen no Youkai Enikki** has a very relaxed yet comedic approach that leaves audience with a comfortable feeling. If you've mostly watch full length anime and are new to anime shorts, now is a good time as any to maybe try and experience watching one. Follow **Kiitarou** and **Suzu** daily adventures as they encounter different types of youkai in **Kiitarou Shounen no Youkai Enikki**.



**KIITAROU (CV: HIROMI IGARASHI)**

**Kiitarou** is the main protagonist of the story and is also the master of the house where the story mostly takes place. Since young, he possessed a very keen spiritual sense but he still manages to keep a very positive outlook in life. That positive way of thinking may be the reason as to how he can easily adapt to any strange situation he encounters.



**SUZU (CV: ARISA NAKADA)**

**Suzu** is a zashiki warashi (house spirit said to bring good fortune) that resides in **Kiitarou's** new home. She takes the form of a young girl clad in kimono, while her real body is that of a small doll. She ended up being **Kiitarou's** house keeper after losing a bet.



# 夏目友人帳



## NATSUME'S BOOK OF FRIENDS

Natsume Yuujinchou Go

by Mikelle



TAKASHI NATSUME

Since childhood, **Takahashi Natsume** had the peculiar ability of being able to see things that other people cannot. He was ostracized, bullied and was seen as a troublemaker due to this even by his own relatives. To make things worst, he was orphaned and got passed on to different relatives resulting to Natsume being isolated his entire childhood. Eventually he settled with the **Fujiwara** couple, who came to love him as their own child. Thus Natsume's peaceful life begins, or so it should've been until he stumbles upon one of his grandmother's belongings.

Natsume was an ordinary student who soon discovers that he inherited three major things from his grandmother: her appearance, her ability to see otherworldly beings and the Book of Friends that contains the names of many contracted youkai.

**Natsume Yuujinchou Go** or Natsume's Book of Friends Fifth is a fantasy anime series by Shuka studio and is the fifth season of the series. Thought the prior first four seasons and the two OVAs were handled by **Brain's Base** studio. The anime is originally adapted from **Yuki Midorikawa's** shoujo manga which began serialization in **LaLa DX** magazine by **Hakusensha** in 2005.

In respect to his deceased grandmother, Natsume resolves to unravel the mystery surrounding her life when she was alive in order to know the why she created the Book of Friends. Due to his personality, Nasume also decided to take it upon himself to return the names within the Book of Friends to their rightful owners while gaining both human and youkai companions and friends.

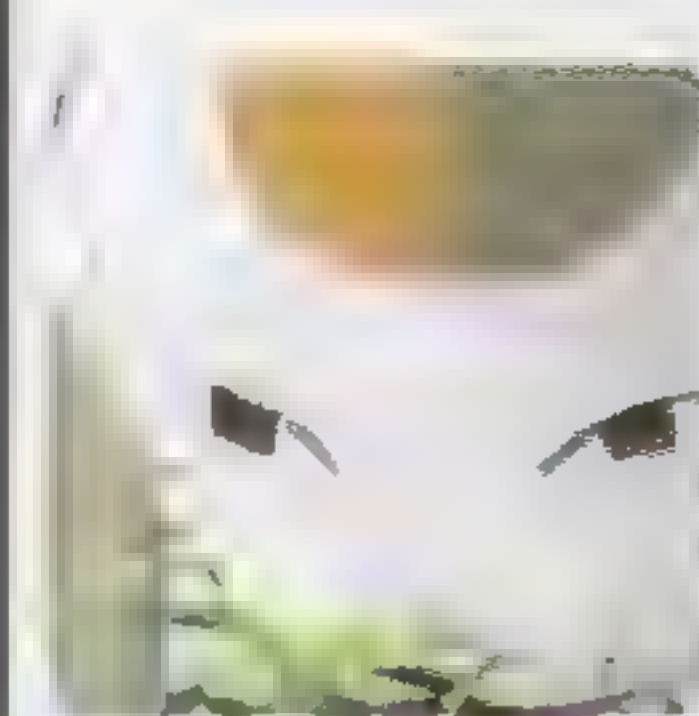
Natsume and Nyanko-sensei, along with their human and non-human friends are back for the fifth time around. Continuing where the previous season left off, Natsume continues to encounter different youkai that have ties to her grandmother.



REIKO NATSUME

With new and returning characters, coupled with more problems to solve and more mysteries to unravel; will Natsume be able to figure out the mysteries surrounding her grandmother? Find out on this fifth season of Natsume Yuujinchou.

Reiko is Takashi's grandmother who also had the ability to see youkai. Reiko possessed very high spiritual powers which she used to force many youkai to write their names within the book to control them, while sealing those who she deemed to be dangerous. As such she was feared and ostracized by humans and youkai alike.



NYANKO-SENSEI

Nyanko is one of the first youkai that Natsume encountered when he first moved to the Fujiwara household. He was initially sealed in a shrine which Natsume accidentally released. Circumstances led Nyanko-sensei to accompany Natsume as his bodyguard and problem solver whenever there are troubles concerning youkai. His main and original goal was to obtain the Book of Friend in order to gain power and influence but now just keeps complaining whenever Natsume returns a name from the book.





## Magic Kyun No Renaissance

article by James

When the word renaissance comes to mind, a lot of people think of an era when a massive movement of the arts sprang up, reviving the humanities. In fact, that's what the term originally means: a revival. In the world of anime, however, the first thing that'd probably pop in a lot of people's minds would be Magic Kyun Renaissance! And to be fair, the show, as its title implies, isn't too far off the central theme of that great European era, except this is a reverse harem.

Magic Kyun Resistance, which is based on a PlayStation Vita otome game of the same name, is about Kohana. In the world she lives in, there are Artistas, exceptional people who express their magic through mesmerizing and inspiring displays of talent in music and dance.

Among them is Kohana, a hopeful and cheery girl, if not a bit ditzy. She aspires to be a great Artista someday, just like her mother, so she enrolled in Hoshinomori Private Magical Arts High School, a prestigious academy where the best Artistas graduate, and one of them would be her mother. And as she reaches for her dreams, she leads a romantic life – not only in the classical artistic sense, but in the love sense, as she spends her school life with six gorgeous and graceful boys as her classmates, with each of them specializing in a particular art.

So, who will she fall in love with? And will she become an Artista of the same caliber as that of her mother? Well, it doesn't matter; what does – especially to its target demographic, which is probably young girls (and some boys) who like pretty anime boys – is that she shares a school with six dashing bishounen, and that they sing. Think of it as an Uta no Prince-sama that has a more up-to-date, lighter, and smoother art style; is a lot less pop and a lot more "classical"; a bit more romance-oriented; and has a bit more heroine involvement, unlike other otome game-based anime whose heroines are only there as an insertion character for the viewers.

If you're into anime with a lot of music and a bit of romance – and vice versa – then Magic Kyun Resistance is without a doubt for you. On the other hand, if you're simply into the genre but isn't into the whole musical anime thing, then you should nevertheless give it a shot. Who knows? Other than swooning for potential husbandos, it might even get you singing.





2016年10月13日よりフジテレビ  
 “ノイタミナ”ほかにて放送予定  
 Amazonプライム・ビデオにて  
 日本・海外独占配信



## A Dream, a Goal, a Long Passage.

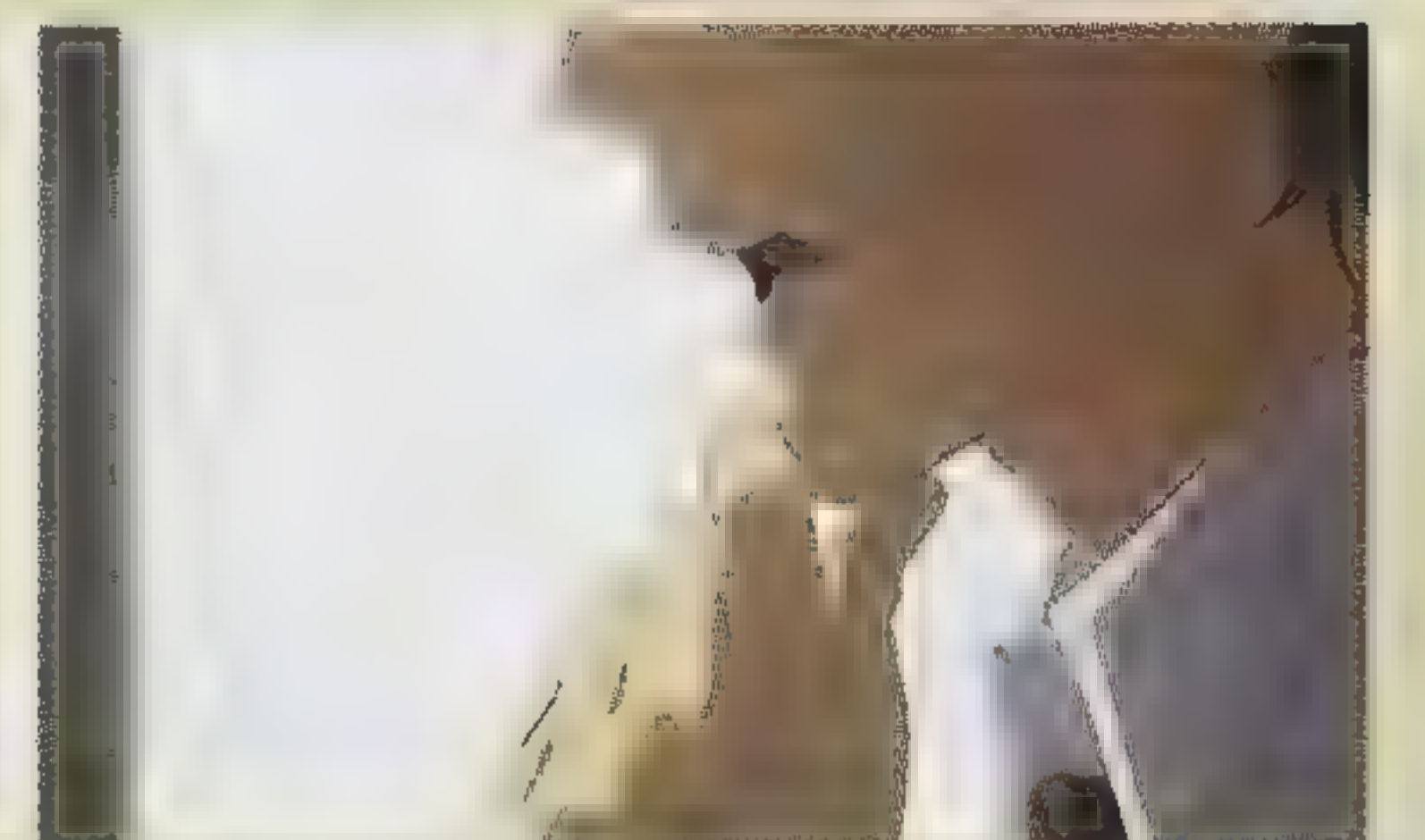
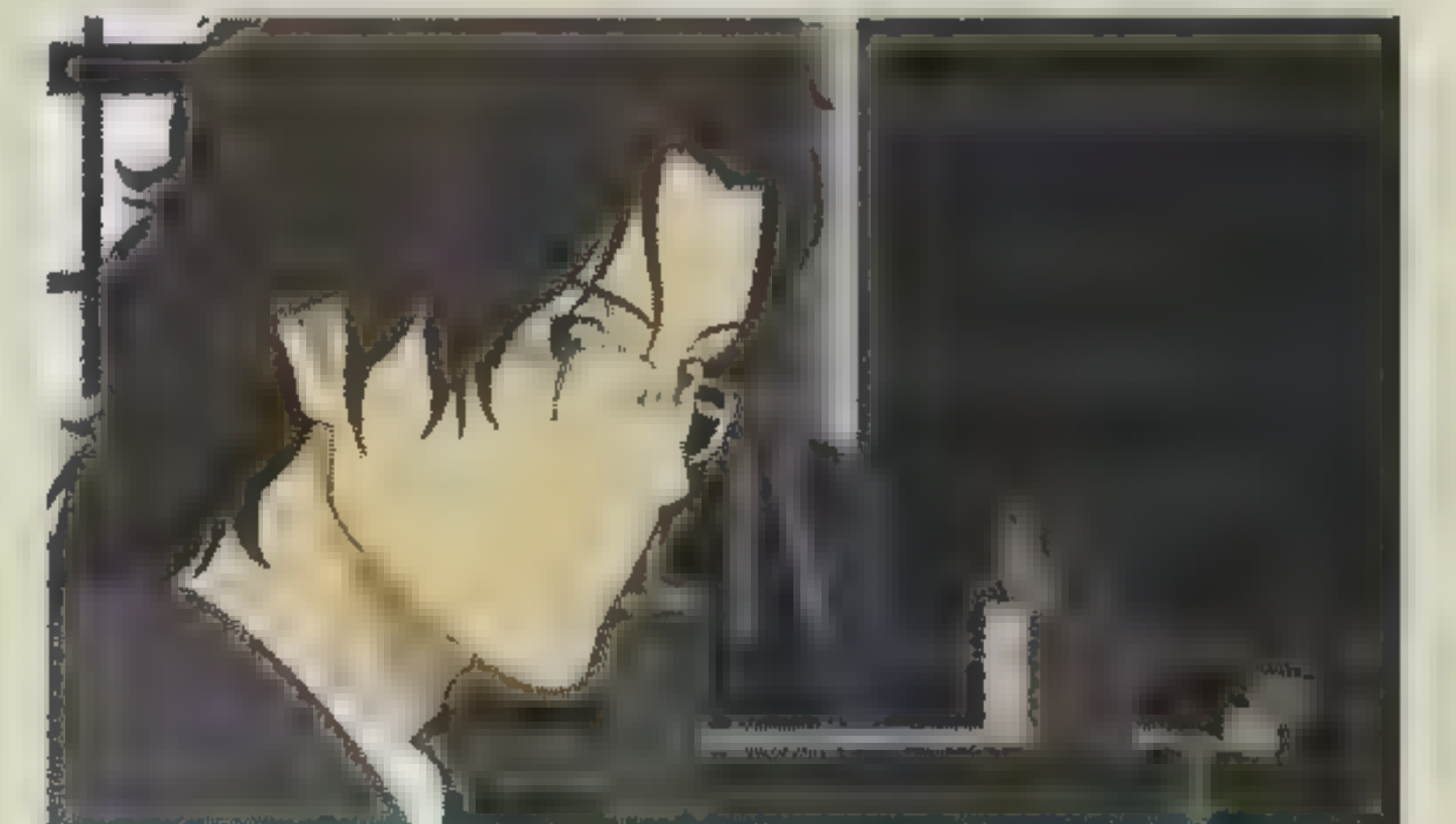
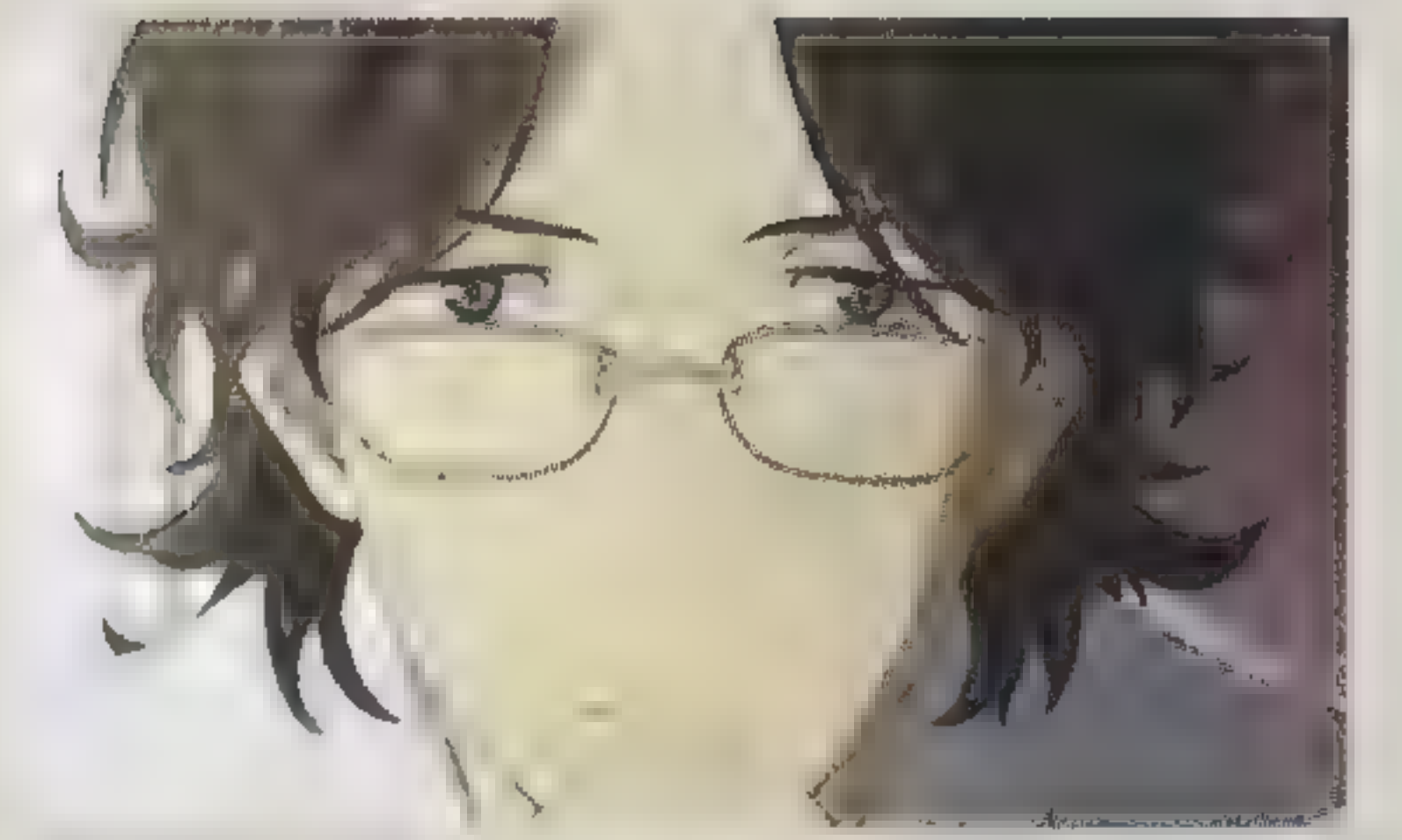
Dictionaries have been helpful since we were little. We use it to help us with our school works, at work and even with our daily lives. Every dictionary is unique; it varies on kinds and it differs depending what year was it published.

The story starts with Araki who is a veteran editor for the dictionary department at Genbu Shobo Publishing. He is looking for a successor since he's about to retire his job. Currently, they are in the middle of creating a new dictionary called the "The Great Passage". He assured that he will find the suitable person for the job. He overhears Masashi Nishioka talk about a person named Majime Mitsuya who's in the same company with them. As Masashi shares his encounter with Majime, Araki got interested with Majime and decided to meet him immediately. Upon meeting him, Araki was fascinated of how he come up with different meanings of a single word. Because of this, he recruited him to be an editor for the dictionary department.

Fune wo Amu is an anime television series based from the novel Fune wo Amu written by Shion Miura. The anime was directed by Toshimasa Kuroyanagi and written by Takuya Sato. It was produced by Zexcs and the first episode was aired last October 13, 2016.

The process of creating a dictionary is indeed crucial; it takes patience and time plus big investment with all the research and materials needed in creating a new one. There are no rooms for mistakes since dictionaries are one of the major sources to know and prove if a certain word does exist and how it is being spelled and pronounced correctly.

Majime may be poor at communication skills but we can see that he is indeed great with words, for having to come up different definitions from a single word in a short time. The anime also emphasizes on words so close up scenes; especially with the mouth part is seen with the anime. The movie version which was released last 2013 that received many awards and nominations including the Japan Academy Prize for Picture of the Year. The novel and movie is indeed successful and I doubt that the anime series won't fail to re-tell us again the story of Fune wo Amu that gave us feels and lessons which we can apply in our daily lives.





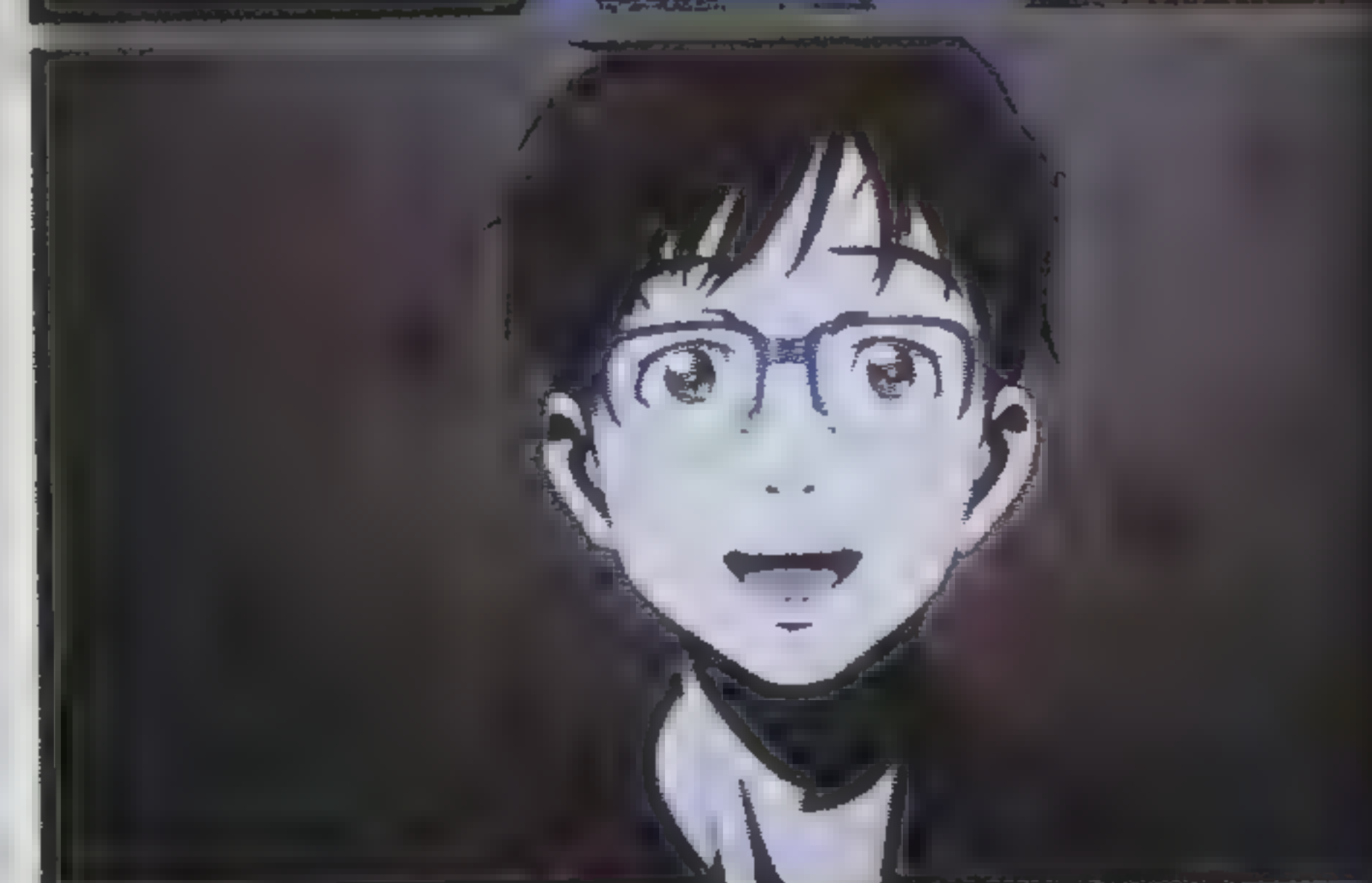
# The Skating Prince and His King

Yuri!!! on Ice

*Fall seven times, stand up eight.*

It is not easy to accept failure as a step to the path of success especially when the whole world is watching your demise. Katsuki Yuri is a top figure skater certified by Japan Skating Federation or JSF, but has, unfortunately, not won any worldwide figure skating competition yet. After landing on the 6th rank in the Grand Prix Final Victory against figure skaters from different countries, he ponders on giving up the sport he loved since he was a child. Feeling dejected, he returns to his hometown to make a decision. He goes to Ice Castle Hasetu, a skating rink where his childhood friend Yuko is working. Yuri turns on the music "Stay Close to Me" and practices Victor's routine, his idol in the figure skating world. He does it perfectly, not knowing he is being filmed by Yuko's triplets. They upload it on the Internet and it goes viral. The next day, he finds the great Victor Nikiforov at their family onsen, volunteering himself to be his coach! Yuri's life changes drastically being with his long-time idol and the person he admires the most.

Yuri!!! on Ice is a 2016 original figure skating anime produced by MAPPA animation studio, written by Mitsurou Kubo and directed by Sayo Yamamoto. The fall anime that extends up to winter, Yuri!!! on Ice created buzz on social media with its first promotional teaser alone which somehow projected the success of the anime. Even without a manga or a light novel forerunner, YoI proves that a standalone anime can be ridiculously popular. The first episode aired on October 5th, and only hours later, art, fiction, and cosplays had surfaced on social media, making it one of the most talked about anime in the last quarter of 2016.



Director: Sayo Yamamoto

Series Composition and Supervision: Sayo Yamamoto

Planning for Original Concept: Sayo Yamamoto and Mitsurou Kubo

Storyboard: Mitsurou Kubo

Original Characters: Mitsurou Kubo

Character Designer: Tadashi Hiramatsu

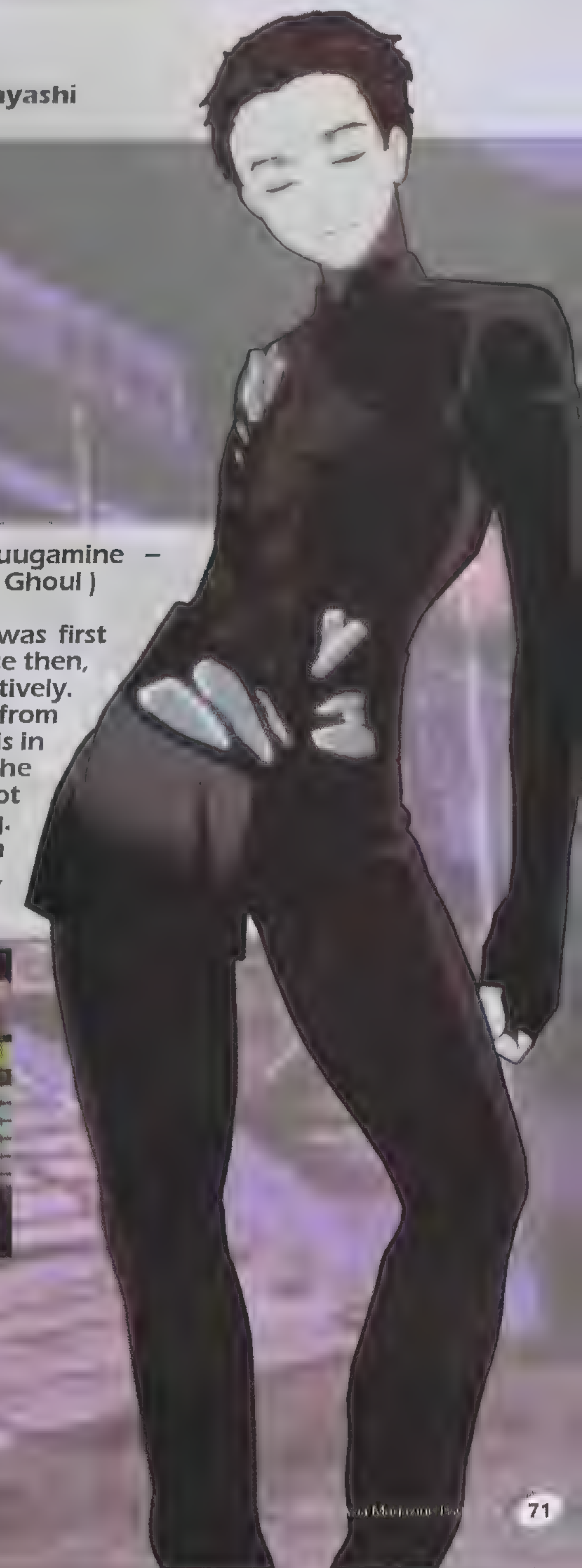
Music: Taku Matsushiba and Taro Umebayashi

Choreography: Kenji Miyamoto

## Yuri Katsuki

(CV: Toshiyuki Toyonaga, Mikado Ryuugamine – Durarara!!; Hideyoshi Nagachika – Tokyo Ghoul )

Yuri is a professional ice skater. He was first fascinated by Victor at the age of 13. Since then, Yuri grew inspired to skate competitively. Although he cannot get past his rivals from other countries, Yuri is still the best there is in Japan. He also gains weight easily which he usually gets a scolding for because it is not the body a figure skater should be having. He has a gentle demeanor, making him look lazy and undetermined. However, despite his appearance, Yuri hates losing.





# Victor Nikiforov

(CV: Junichi Suwabe, Aomine Daiki – Kuroko no Basket; Kyousuke Kuga – Prince of Stride)

Victor is a Russian national who has won the Grand Prix five times in a row. He has many fans all over the world, not only because of his unmatched talent but also because of his natural charms and confidence. The twenty-seven-year-old champion is rumored to be retiring in the current season. Victor offering his services as Yuri's coach only added more to the reports that he might really be signing off.



## Yuri Plisetsky

(CV: Koki Uchiyama, Tsukishima Kei – Haikyuu!!; Yuu Otosaka - Charlotte)

Yuri or Yurio, is a champion in the Junior Division of the Grand Prix representing Russia. He is starting to gear for the Senior Division to skate on the same ice as Victor's. He is Yuri's greatest rival in Victor's coaching and also the opposite of his personality. Yuri P. is hot-tempered, already swinging mean words at the defeated Yuri K. at their very first meeting. The fifteen-year-old prodigy is self-confident and strong-minded, gaining an obvious edge over his Japanese counterpart as Victor's apprentice.

## Yuri vs. Yuri

Their first meeting is so bad that it left only bad impressions of each other. The only thing these two Yuris have in common is they are Victor's fans and they are both wishing to be coached by the genius, while the rest is chaos!

### AGE & NATIONALITY

Yuri Katsuki (Japanese)  
 23 yrs. old

Yuri Plisetsky (Russian)  
 15 yrs. old

### PERSONALITY

Gentle, polite, and jumpy

Hot-tempered, impulsive, and confident

### SPECIALTY

Mellow songs

Upbeat songs

### FIGURE SKATING ABILITY

From practice and hard work

From honing natural talent

### ALSO KNOWN AS

Dog lover

Cat whisperer

### RELATIONSHIP WITH VICTOR

A diehard Victor fan; only recently noticed by Victor through a video posted on social media

Goes a long way with Victor; he was the first one to be promised to by Victor for whom he would create a skating routine/program

### VICTOR'S ASSIGNED NICKNAME

Little pig

Kitten



# Victor's Vocabulary

Genius figure skater Victor Nikiforov is an expert at quads or moves that are done four consecutive times, but there are many more terms the audience needs to learn before fully understanding the routines of this Russian star and also figure skating in general.

**Toe loop** – It is the simplest move in figure skating and is one of the basic jumps that a figure skater must learn. Victor does combinations of these in quad and triple, seeing as this is a move that is easy for him.

**Lutz** – Victor did quadruple lutz in his "Stay Close to Me" performance. A lutz is done when the skater jumps on one skate, does one complete spin in the air, and lands on the other.



**Flip** – Victor's signature move is a quadruple flip. A flip is a kind of jump in figure skating that also makes use of the toes to make a spin, usually in a counter-clockwise position.

**Flying sit spin** – It is a spin that is done from a jump and the skater suddenly squats in a position where the skater's buttocks lies below the knee of the skating leg.

**Salchow** – Victor effortlessly does double Salchow. Salchow is a jump from the backward inside edge of one skate and lands on the backward outside edge of the other. This is done while the skater is skating backwards.

**Combination spin** – It is a combination of spins that change directions as the skater wishes.



## Talk of the Town

The anime that shook everyone and made a lot of noise, Yuri!!! on Ice really did hook many people to the amazing animation and real life-based moves of the characters. There were quite a number of references from actual figure skaters such as Yuzuru Hanyu from Japan and Yulia Lipnitskaya from Russia. It is also believed that some world renowned figure skaters started watching this anime like Evgeni Plushenko, also from Russia.

Yuri!!! on Ice also sparked debate on how fujoshi or BL fangirls easily took the bait to watch the anime because of the slight fan service provided by Victor's character. He is assumed to be catering fan service because of his onsen scene (which a lot of sports anime fans wish their favorites to have)

there was hardly any focus on that but only the wonderful world of figure skating. Anyone can be hooked to this anime showing hard work and determination in a sport that can only be done on ice, a platform that is hard to deal with especially if one is living in a country where it doesn't snow. The anime also presents detailed research that the staff conducted to make it as accurate as possible.

Will Yuri finally prevail on ice and be able to redeem himself for the love of the sport and his country? Join him in his training with Victor and Yuri Plisetsky as they compete against more talented figure skaters all over the world. Yuri!!! on Ice is the anime of 2016 that no one should miss!





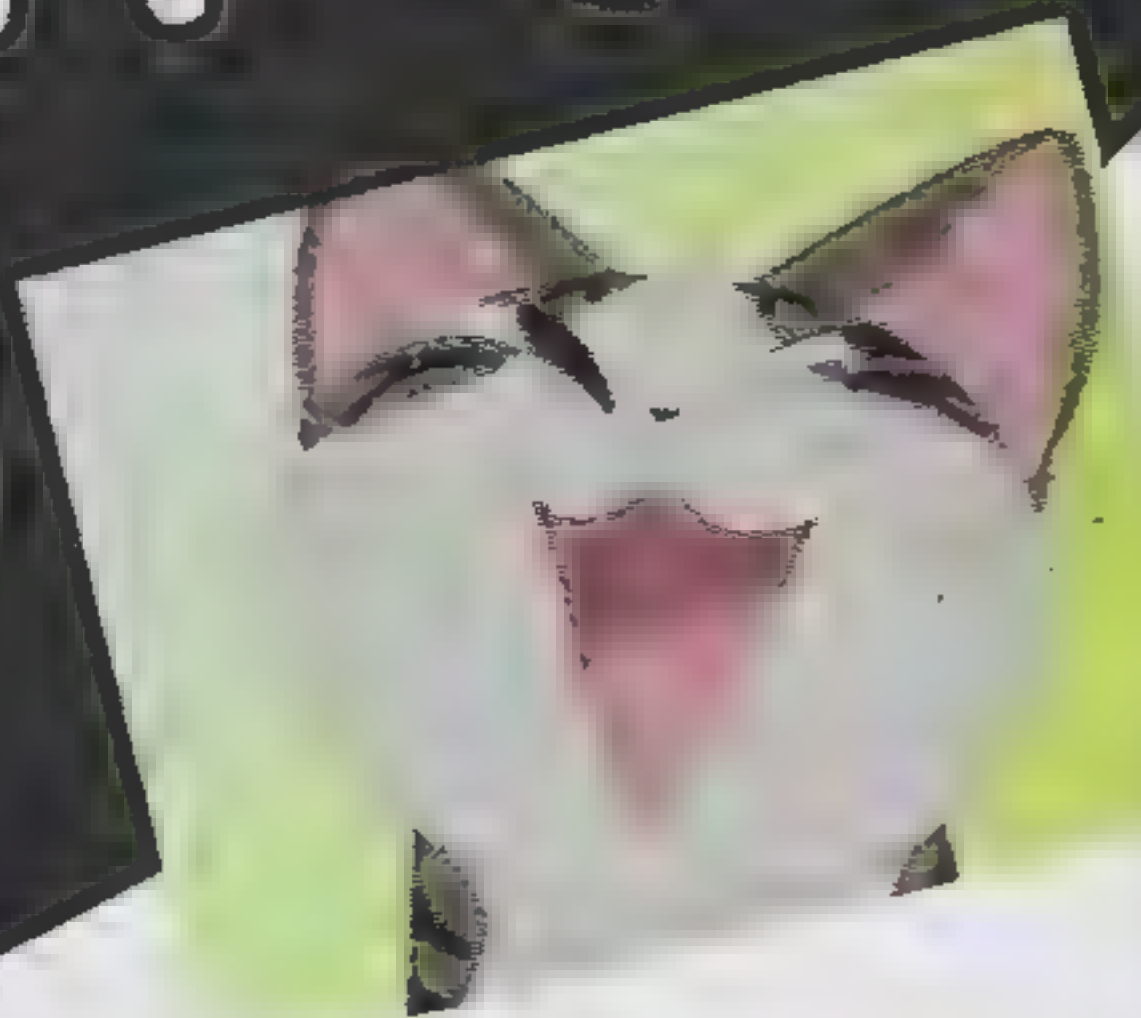
# CHARACTER BIO

by Reikisha

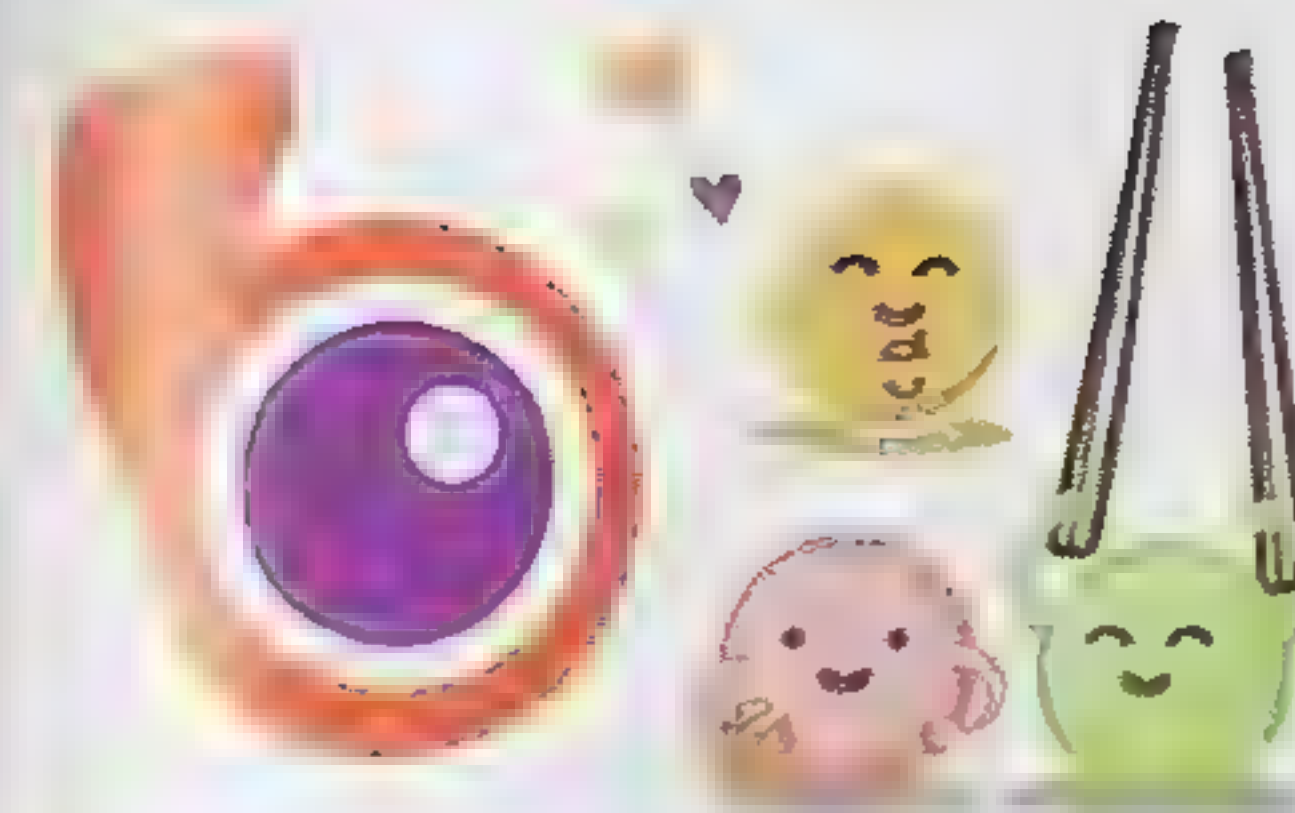
## CHI YAMADA

Reikisha: As of this writing, my cat Jiken is in my workstation and asks for a headpat, and then bite my hand when he gets bored with it. It's really hard to finish working with this cat around during my work hours! Did I spoil him too much, I wonder?

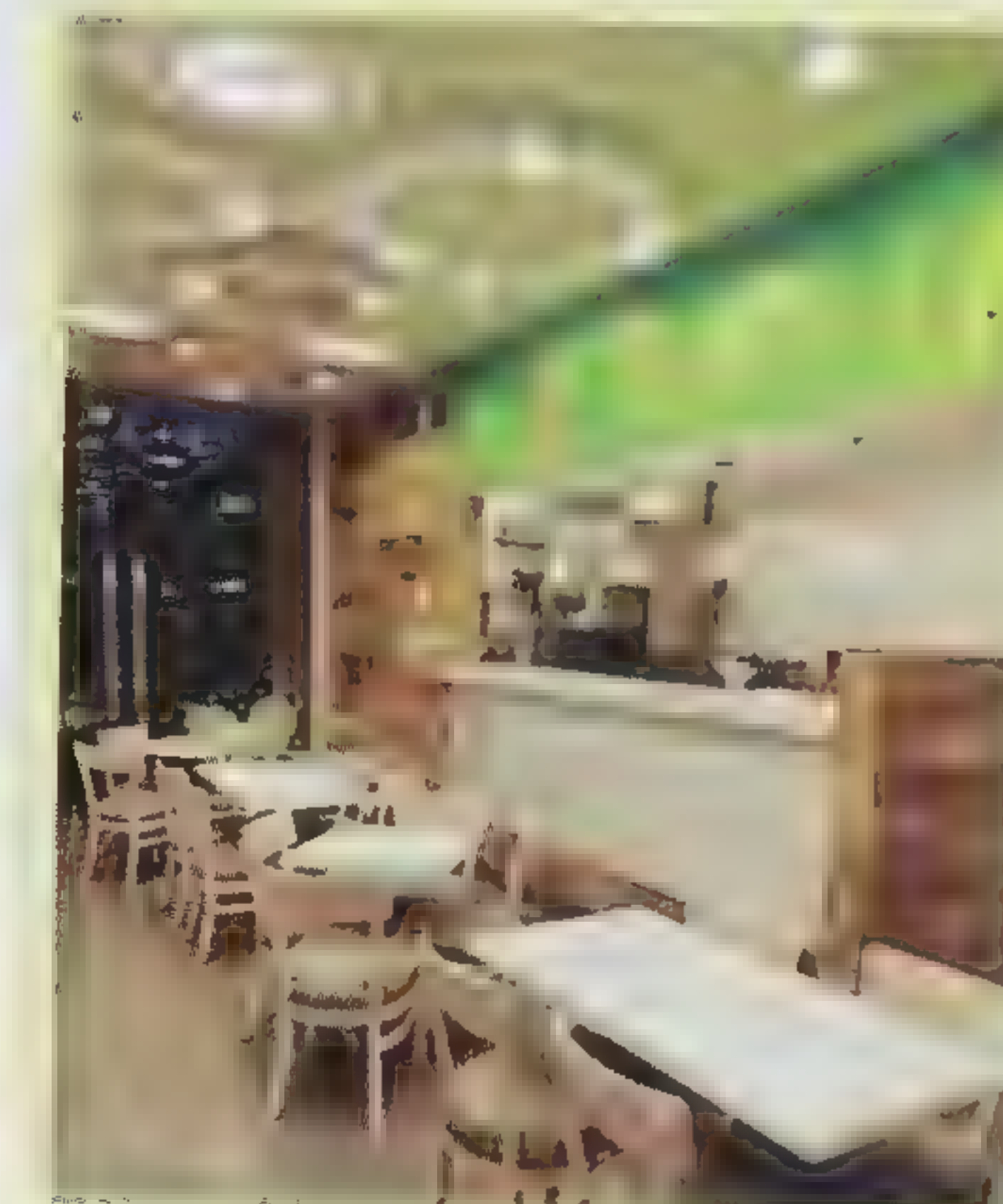
He kinda reminds me of a certain kitten for this issue's Character Bio though.



**Name:** Chi Yamada  
**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** Kitten  
**Fur Color:** Gray  
**Fur Pattern:** Mackarel Stripe  
**Likes:** Sushi, Her owners  
**Dislikes:** The Veterinarian  
**Owner:** The Yamada Family  
**Relationships:** David, Alice and Blackie (Friends)  
**Character Voice:** Satomi Korogi



**Tokyo Bubble Tea** is a great Japanese place to have your lunch, light snack meals, dinner or even when you come with your sesame street pajamas to have your midnight snacks. It is a great place to hangout with your friends and family where our ambiance encourages fun and laughter from menu, service and comfy place all year round!



### Our Story

Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.



### Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.





# MANGA

article by: James

## JIMIKOI

Plain Love

**Genres:** Comedy, Romance, School, Shoujo, Slice of Life

**Author:** Ema Tooyama

**Artist:** Ema Tooyama

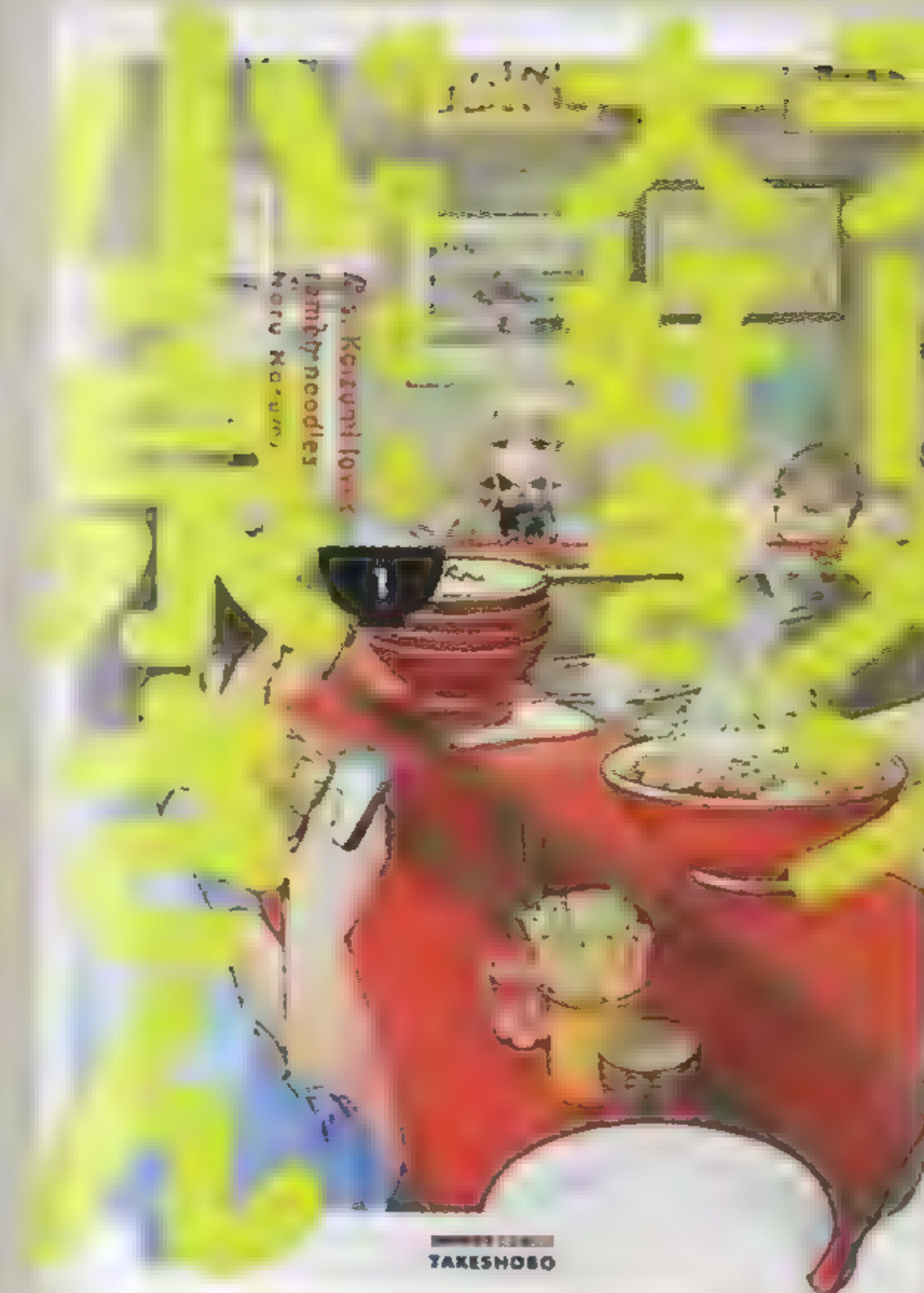


Everyone has a type – you know, a particular preference when it comes to choosing one's love interest. And sometimes, there are some people whose type is a bit...ordinary. But hey, there's nothing wrong with that. After all, they see something beautiful in the person they like and we don't, so who are we to judge? Besides, in the end, nobody is truly ordinary, because everyone is unique and special. Jimikoi is proof of that.

Aptly translated as Plain Love in English, Jimikoi by Ema Tooyama is a four-chapter one-volume shoujo manga about Wakana Nakatani, a cute, simple, cheerful, and friendly girl who has a simple taste in boys: the plain ones. Unfortunately, she hadn't had much luck in her quest...until she met Kagano, a glasses-wearing and book-reading silent-type. One day, the two of them accidentally exchanged scarves, which then led to an implied confession on Wakana's part. So, did she get a yes or a no from Nagano? Or is it something in between? You have to read to find out.

What makes the manga good is that it plays out straight and doesn't pretend to be anything else, and it banks on its characters' personalities and their sweet yet simple attraction to each other to set the manga's happy and romantic tone.

If you're looking for a short and quick dose of pure, unadulterated shoujo goodness, then Jimikoi is for you. It's simple and sweet, definitely not bland.



## RAMEN DAISUKI KOIZUMI-SAN

Ms. Koizumi loves ramen noodles

**Genres:** Comedy

**Author:** Ema Tooyama

**Artist:** Ema Tooyama

When you like someone, you'll either be happy that you like some of the same things, or find yourself liking the things they do, even if they don't like you back. That's how Yuu came to like ramen. But will Koizumi-san come to like her in return? Well, you'll have to read Ramen Daisuki Koizumi-san for that.

Despite the title, the manga is more about Yuu, a girl who has become fond of Koizumi-san, a girl who acts cold and loves ramen so much that she eats it on a regular basis. Yuu likes ramen too. Unfortunately, despite their shared interest, Koizumi-san doesn't like Yuu back; she even outright rejects her offer of friendship. That, however, doesn't deter Yuu, as she still eats with Koizumi-san. And together they explore the different possibilities of this distinctly Japanese noodle soup dish.

As the name suggests, the manga has a great deal to do with ramen. It delves into the ingredients, necessary preparations, and flavors of different kinds of the dish; think of it as a ramen documentary in manga form, and with actual characters. And speaking of which, the manga, despite its focus on the food, gives importance to its characters, as it is through the discussions about ramen that they become closer.

All in all, Ramen Daisuki Koizumi-san is for slice of life lovers, for those who want a bit of shoujo ai, and ramen lovers. And one word of advice: don't read it if you have no plans of eating ramen, because this will make you crave.





# SAIHATE NO AO

The Deepest Blue

Genres: Mystery, Supernatural, Josei

Author: Saya Fuyume

Artist: Saya Fuyume

Haru led a peaceful life with Kiryuu, his savior and legal guardian, after he lost his memories in a traffic accident three years ago. His old memories began to resurface after Haru and his classmates wandered around the ruins of an ancient laboratory in Saihate that was rumored to be the site of illegal human experimentations. Since that day, strange things happen around Haru, leading him to believe that his past might be related to the laboratory.



As he refused to accept the possibility, Haru's life took a downward spiral after discovering that he has been cursed with immortality.

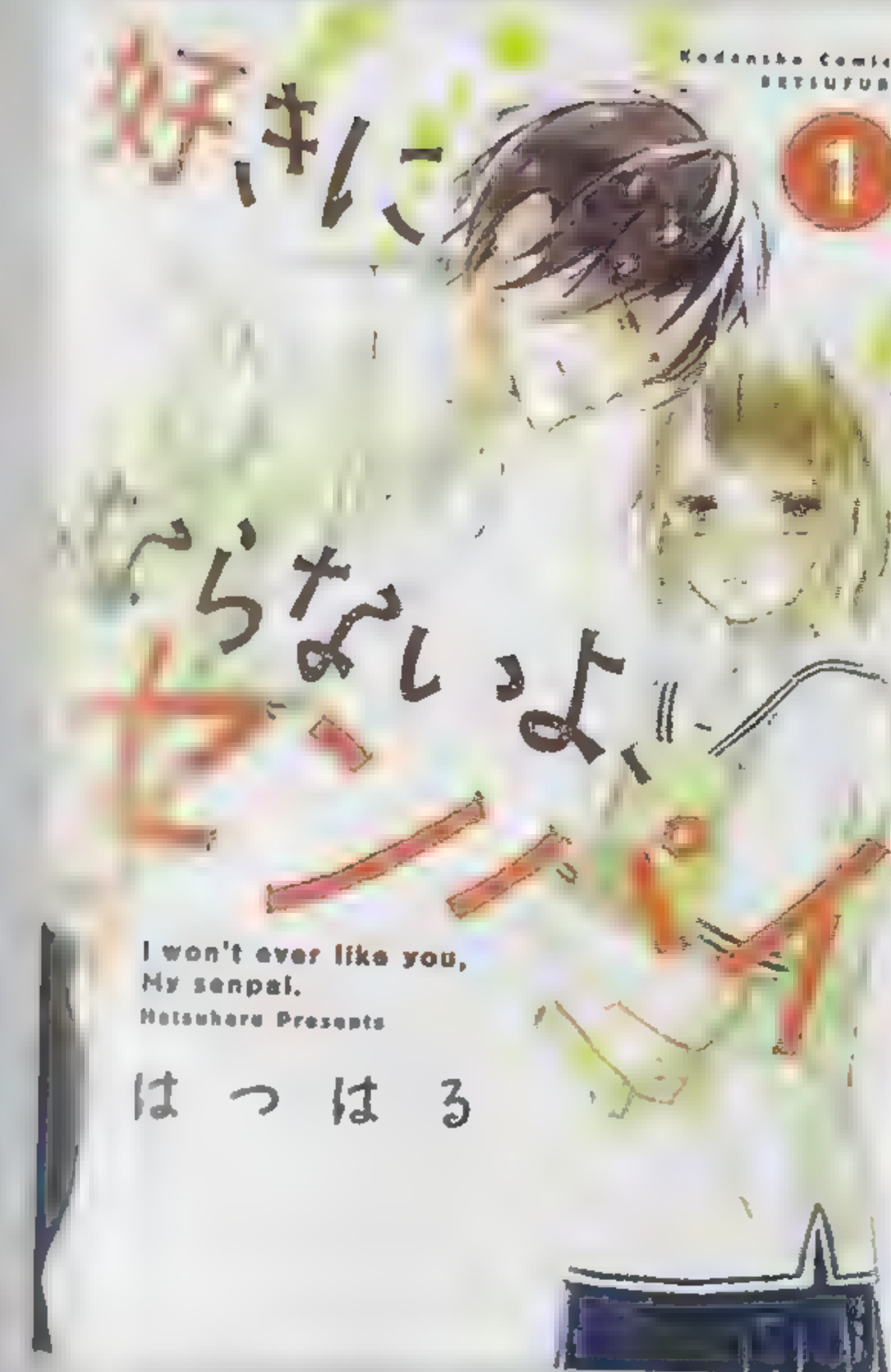
The Deepest Blue (Saihate no Ao) is a mystery manga series created by Saya Fuyume. It was serialized by Zero-sum WARD and ran for a total of nine chapters from March 2014 to May 2015.

## REVIEW

Saihate no Ao is the literal definition of the phrase "Do not judge the book by its cover". Most people will think that shoujo manga-like artstyle and mystery stories don't mix, but this series was able to keep its readers at the edge of their seats by maintaining the right balance between its artstyle and setting. Saihate no Ao also have moments where the characters fight and showcase amazing powers, but that was minimized because it was never intended to become a battle manga.

If there's a glaring problem with this manga, it must be due to the author overusing the word "blue" since it can mean anything according to the story.

Saihate no Ao is recommended for people who are looking for some light reading. The manga may only be 9 chapters long, but the story's pacing was just right for the readers. It was able to bring closure to the mysteries surrounding Haru, as well as giving the rest of the characters a backstory without making the story feel like it was rushed.



# SUKI NI NARANAI YO, SENPAI

The Senpai is a Lie

Genres: Romance, School, Shoujo

Author: Hatsu-haru

Artist: Hatsu-haru

Iku Saijou fell in-love with a painting she saw at a nearby school festival and met the high schooler who created it. It was during that moment that Iku fell in-love at first sight and hastily decided that she will enroll in the same school as her "prince". But when she finally joined the school's art club, Iku's image of her beloved was shattered when

she discovered that the gentle upperclassman from a year ago and the womanizer she accidentally met on her first day is the same person.

Follow Iku as she deals with her conflicting feelings towards her senpai in this romance manga by the author of Kimi no Kiss de Me wo Samasu!

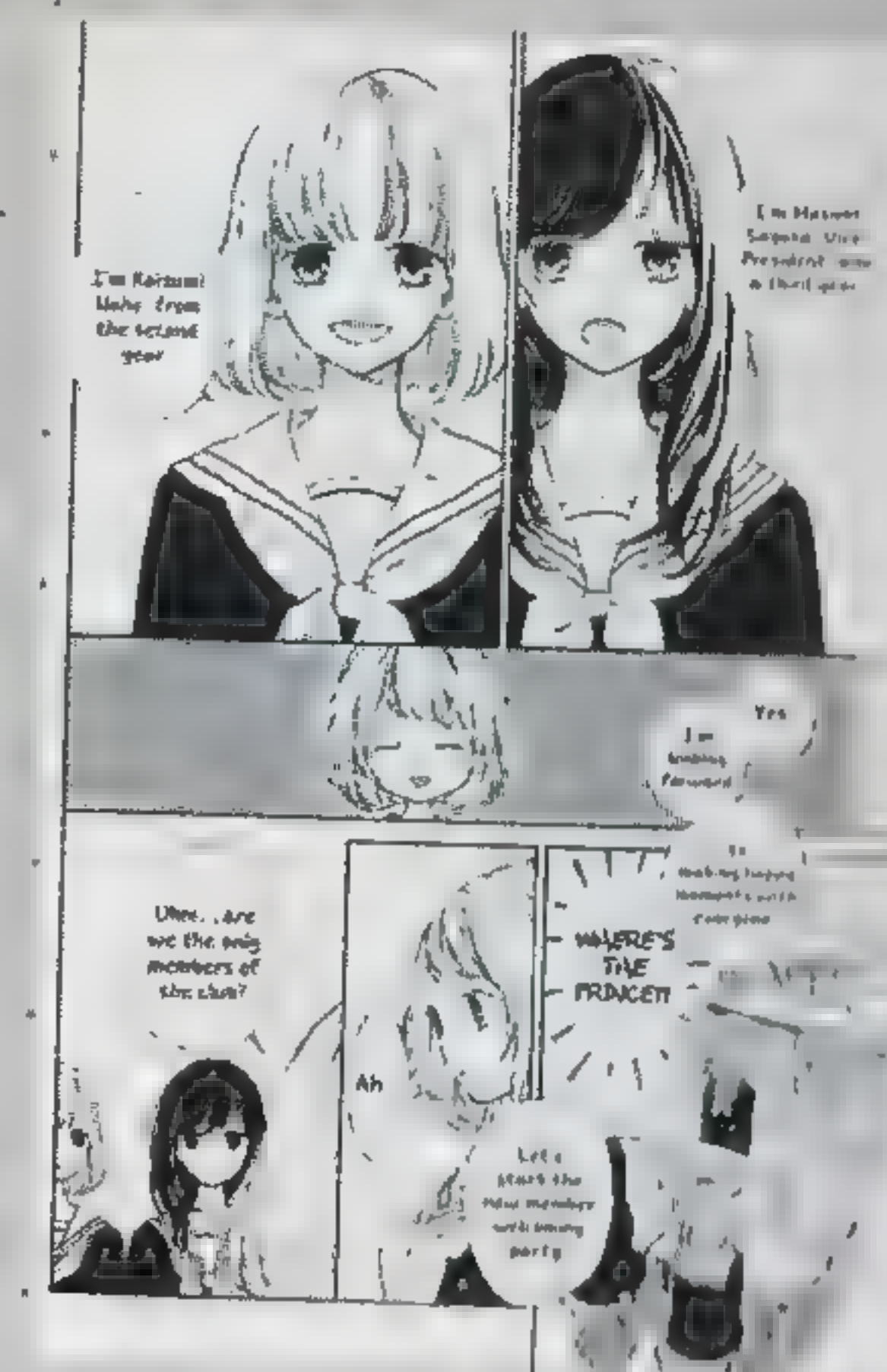
Suki ni Naranai yo, Senpai is a school-romance manga created by Hatsu-haru and was serialized in Bessatsu Friend since 2015. The series ran for 4 volumes or 17 chapters from March 2015 to June 2016.

## REVIEW

Compared to Hatsu-haru's other works, Suki ni Naranai yo failed to meet its readers' expectations. Using the main character's illogical decision as the premise led the overall story to end up being lackluster. Instead of character development, Suki ni Naranai yo is filled with character inconsistencies and overused clichés. What's worse is that there are characters that are supposed to be relevant to the story, but gets the extra character treatment.

Suki ni Naranai yo gets a perfect score for its splendid art style—which is supposed to be great if not for the manga's critical flaw.

Overall, this manga is not good enough to be considered as a romance manga. It started out great, but it got worse every chapter. If you're a fan of Hatsu-haru or just someone looking for a new shoujo manga to read, you better read this manga with a grain of salt.







The imperialist nation of Germania started its conquest by invading a neighboring country in 1939. Britannia responded by declaring a full-scale war against Germania, forcing the rest of Europe to embrace an era of a great war. Then, in 1940, the Empire set its eyes on the Principality of Elystadt, a small country in the alps.

Ortfiné Fredericka von Elystadt took action in behalf of her bedridden father to find a way to protect her people and the country. In the midst of a diplomatic negotiation gone wrong, Princess Ortfiné was saved by her childhood friend named Izetta from the Germanian soldiers. Their sudden reunion was like a miracle to the

people of Elystadt, as Izetta is a descendant of a witch and chose to use her powers to fight for the princess.

Shuumatsu no Izetta (Izetta: The Last Witch) is a 2016 historical fantasy anime series produced by Ajia-do Animation Works. It started airing on October 1 and is scheduled to have 12 episodes by December 17. The show's opening and ending songs are performed by Akino with bless4 and May'n, titled "cross the line" and "Hikaru Aru Basho e" respectively. Cast includes Aru Basho e, Saori Hayami, Aya Himika Akaneya, Kana Hanazawa, Nao Touyama, and Junichi Suwabe. The Character Designer & Chief AD is Yuu Yamashita.

Shuumatsu no Izetta portrays an alternate timeline of the World War II era, but with magic. A witch participating in the war will definitely put tanks and fighter planes to shame, since Germanian technology isn't advanced enough to stop Izetta from annihilating a battalion of armed soldiers even without proper magic training. It's like the opposite of GATE, where modern military equipment beats magic and supernatural beings. The war itself might be one-sided in favor of Elystadt as the series goes on, but Shuumatsu no Izetta will also focus on events that are happening outside the battlefield to show character development for the non-combatants

from both sides.

One of the greatest things about Izetta was that the character designs were made by BUNBUN—a well-known illustrator who also worked on Yuuki Yuuna wa Yuusha de Aru and has several published manga series under his belt. His character design goes perfectly well with the overall animation style of the show.

Shuumatsu no Izetta is a must-watch for those who are into historical anime; fantasy and those who are not. It's also recommended for people who are still looking for shows to pick up for this season.



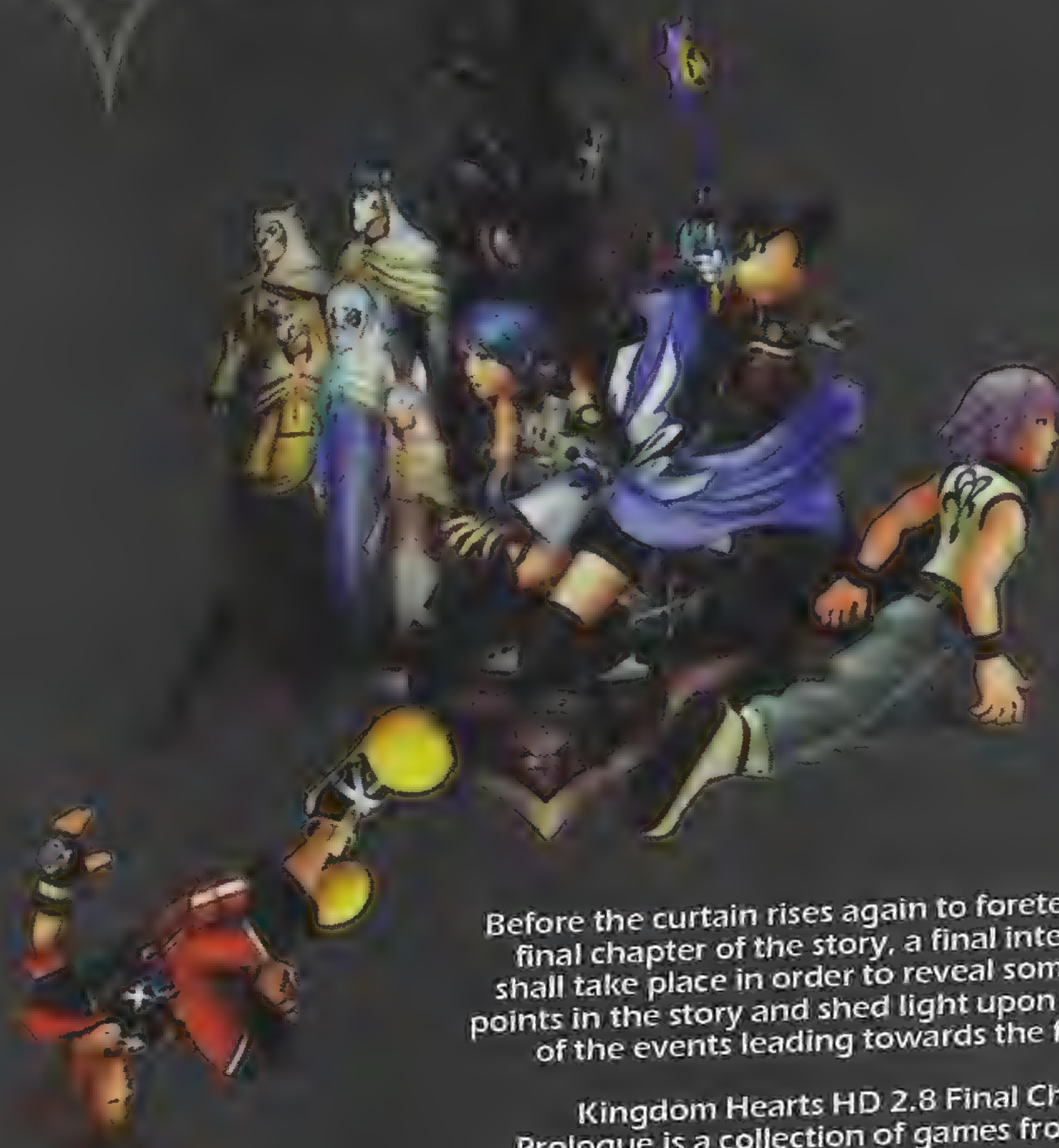


## GAMER'S ARENA

by Mikelle



Release date: January 2017  
 Developer: Square Enix 1st Production Department  
 Publisher: Square Enix  
 Platform: Playstation 4  
 Genre: Action RPG  
 Modes: Single player



Before the curtain rises again to foretell the final chapter of the story, a final interlude shall take place in order to reveal some key points in the story and shed light upon some of the events leading towards the finale.

Kingdom Hearts HD 2.8 Final Chapter Prologue is a collection of games from the Kingdom Hearts series with the contents all remastered into High Definition. The game is developed and published by Square Enix which is currently announced to be exclusive for the PlayStation 4. The release date was originally scheduled for December 2016 but was moved to a month later for January 2017 with regards to both the Japanese and Global release.



The game will be a compilation of **Kingdom Hearts Dream Drop Distance HD**, **Kingdom Hearts 0.2: Birth by Sleep—A Fragmentary Passage** and **Kingdom Hearts x Back Cover**. Players should be able to access any of the three at any given time without any prior requirements which means you can play them in any order that you desire.

### Kingdom Hearts Dream Drop Distance HD

Originally released back in 2012 for the Nintendo 3DS, this installment's story revolves around Sora and Riku's Mark of Mastery examination in order to determine the next Keyblade master which also doubles as preparation for the upcoming battles that the heroes would soon face.

Since Dream Drop Distance was originally meant to be played with the touch screen functions of the 3DS, Nomura quoted that the HD remaster will be a full remake of the game. Some of the featured minigames which also utilizes the dual screen function would also be reworked into card-based minigames. Overall controls will also be adapted into the traditional control for the PlayStation 4 system.

### Kingdom Hearts 0.2: Birth by Sleep—A Fragmentary Passage

This is a completely new chapter for the Birth by Sleep episode which takes place after the events of Birth by Sleep. This short yet eventful sequel focuses on Aqua's point of view during her time within the Realm of Darkness which is a direct link towards Kingdom Hearts 3. The game would also reveal some of the features that are also available for the upcoming Kingdom Hearts 3.

### Kingdom Hearts x Back Cover

An approximately one hour length HD cinematic that features the story of the Foretellers and reveals the earlier parts of history within the Kingdom Hearts universe.



Kingdom Hearts HD 2.8 Final Chapter Prologue's limited edition release is already available for preorder which included the official Disney collectors pin.

For years, the Kingdom Hearts franchise has been one of the most anticipated and sought after games from Square Enix aside from the Final Fantasy series. With the final chapter just around the corner, the prologue should serve as a temporary thirst quencher for fans worldwide.



# CHILD OF LIGHT

by Mikelle



**Release date:**  
April-July 2014  
**Developer:**  
Ubisoft Montreal  
**Publisher:** Ubisoft  
**Platform:** PC, Playstation,  
Wii U and Xbox  
**Genre:** Platform  
**RPG Modes:**  
Single and Multi Play

"The Black Queen has stolen the Sun, the Moon and the Stars.  
You are Aurora, and you must restore this once great kingdom."

**Child of Light** is a platform role playing game published by **Ubisoft** and is developed by **Ubisoft Montreal** using **UBiArt Framework** as the game's engine. The game was first released for the PC, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Wii U, Xbox 360 and Xbox One, and then was released on the PlayStation Vita on a later date.

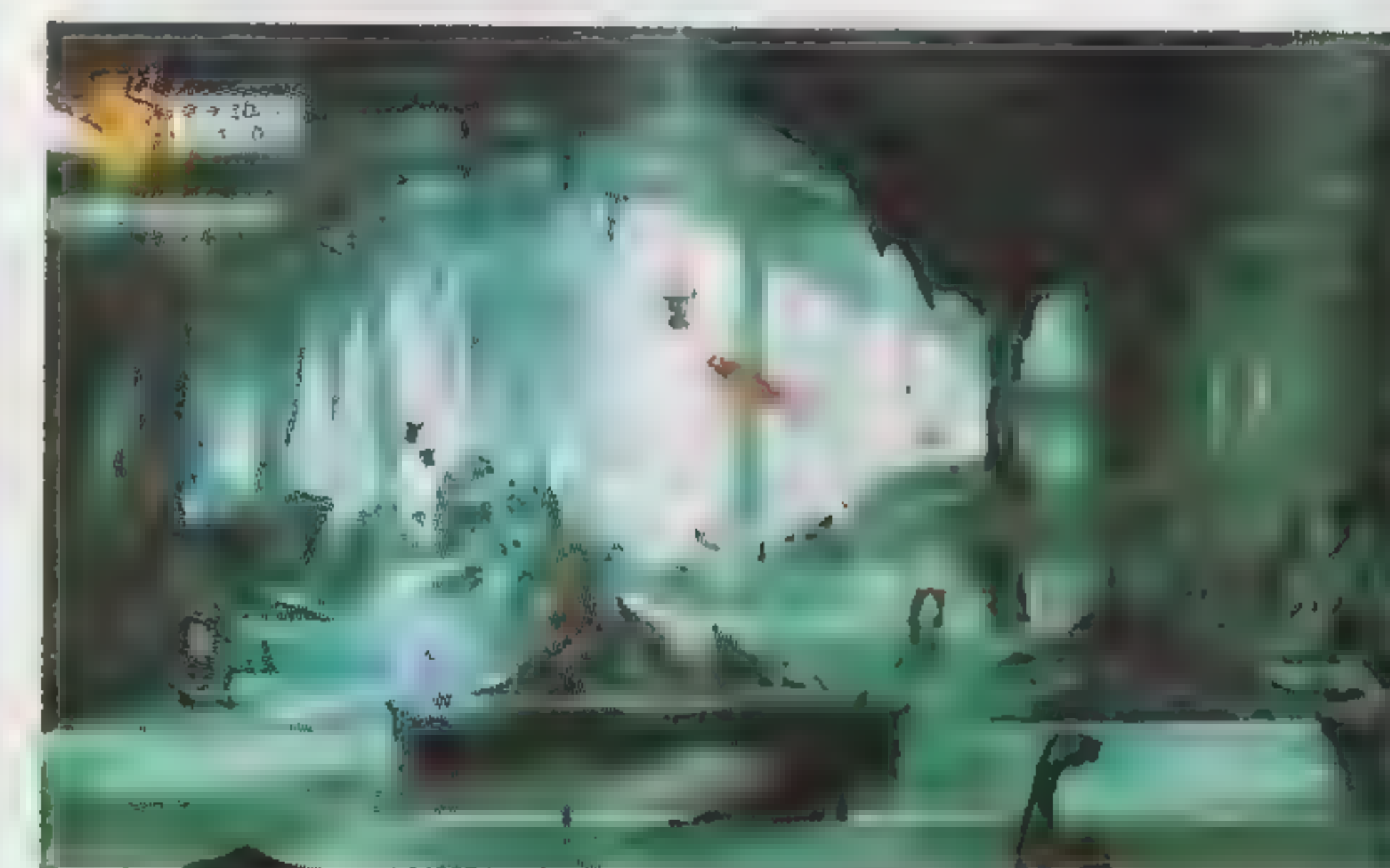
The story is set in the mythical land of **Lemuria** where **Aurora**, accompanied by the firefly **Igniculus**, is tasked by the **Lady of the Forest** with recovering the light which was lost. Aside from their grand quest, Aurora must also work hard in order to be reunited with her father while trying to foil Umbra's ominous plots.



Like most role playing games, **Child of Light** requires players to level up in order to increase their stats over the course of the story. The game features an active-time battle system which is almost similar to modern **Final Fantasy** games.

Enemies are shown lurking within the side scrolling field and the battle begins whenever Aurora comes into contact with those enemies. If ever the player was able to approach the enemy from behind, an advantageous situation called **Surprise Strike** would occur and would give you an edge at the start of the battle, whereby if the enemy instead approached Aurora from behind, the battle would start with an enemy ambush which could place players in a perilous situation.

What makes **Child of Light** unique among other RPGs is its elegant graphics and artistic style.



Looking at the game is like witnessing a painting coming to life which is quite rare to both the eastern and western modern RPGs. The designs was also said to have been inspired by **Studio Ghibli** while the originals soundtracks within the game was composed by Canadian songwriter and singer, **Beatrice Martin**.

Due to positive reviews and great reception from fans around the world, the game's popularity skyrocketed at an amazing pace. Upon celebrating **Child of Light**'s first anniversary, a digital book was released by **Ubisoft** entitled **Child of Light: Reginald the Great** which features **Reginald's** journey throughout **Lemuria**.

Clad with a fairytale like story and characters, take a step within the breathtaking world of **Lemuria** and help Aurora in expelling the darkness that covers their world in the spectacular game: **Child of Light**.







The moment we are all waiting for: Naruto Ultimate Ninja in our mobile phones! Naruto has almost evaded all of the consoles for gaming; Playstation, Nintendo Xbox and even PC and online games~ The game is basically the same with the Ultimate Ninja Series. If you're wondering how will you play it since smartphones come in touch screens; all you need to do is tap: this game is somehow a tactic game so all you need to do is plan how to attack the enemies effectively. This also a perfect game for us whenever we are waiting for someone or caught in a traffic.

Developer: GREE, Inc.  
Publisher: Bandai Namco Entertainment  
Series: Naruto: Ultimate Ninja  
Platforms: iOS, Android  
Genre: Shinobi Formation Battle

## NINJA TEAM

You can have a total of five ninjas in a team plus a slot for a ninja included from your friend list. Remember that rarer the cards you have, the higher the cost from winning battles. You can get rare and good cards at the Summon tab. Please be reminded that the cards you will get in everytime you play is random but it has categories so you will have an idea which ninjas you are most likely to get from it.

## STORY MODE

Like the other Naruto Ultimate Ninja games, this also has one and of course, it will be the same from the anime and manga where Naruto was still an academy Student.

There are two modes for this: The Normal Story Mode and the Hard Story Mode. Both have the same story but it will have more challenge defeating the enemies during battle.



## EMERGENCY MISSION MODE

In doing Emergency Mission mode, you will be able to play the current event and farm ramen and scrolls depending on the day when you will play. Please refer below of what will you get on each day:

Monday: red scrolls and ramen

Tuesday: Green

Wednesday: Blue

Thursday: Yellow

Friday: Purple

Saturday & Sunday: money and all color ramen day.

[Ramen is used for leveling up your ninjas]

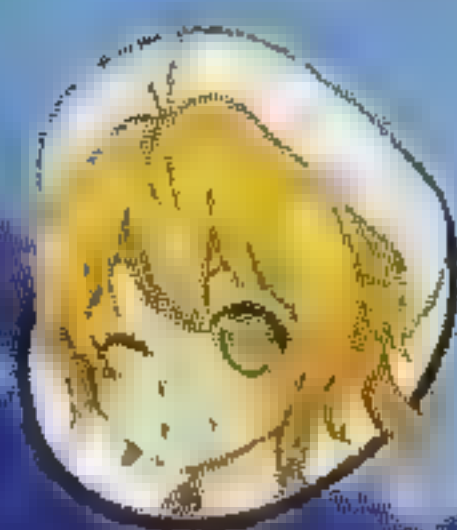
## AWAKENING

You can awaken your ninjas if you reached their maximum level from levelling up them which means that you can evolve them into stronger cards. Once you have awakened a ninja, they are able to do their secret technique.

## TIPS IN FARMING

SET YOUR GAME TO AUTO MODE! The Auto button is located at the middle top. Please remember that it is not advised to this when playing in difficult stages since your ninjas won't use their special attacks during battle.





## REQUESTS

# 君の名は

your name

by lizac 3.0

When you wake up, the memories you have in your dreams slowly fade away. You must always cherish them before they disappear.

Mitsuha Miyazumi wakes up mangled one day, seemingly not even knowing who she is. Mitsuha is in fact, a high school girl living in the small town of Itomori in Gifu prefecture. Mitsuha hears people's accounts of her acting strange the day before, but the strangest thing of all is she barely has any recollection of it.

Taki Tachibana is a high school boy living in the busy city of Tokyo. He wakes up one day, surprised of being inside the body of a boy. It appears that Mitsuha had switched bodies with Taki. This complicated setup forces them to find ways to communicate and lay the ground rules of living in each other's bodies every once in a while. They write words on their palms and faces, and leave memos on each other's phones. However, after Mitsuha had set up Taki and his senior at work for a date, they never switched bodies again. Taki decides to find Mitsuha's hometown, with his sketches based on his memories as his only clue. He eventually finds the town with the help of a local, but the things he discovers are overwhelming.

Kimi no Na Wa or Your Name is a 2016 science fiction animated film created by Makoto Shinkai and produced by CoMix Wave Films. It stars the voices of popular actors Kamiki Ryuunosuke as Taki and Kamishiraishi Mone as Mitsuha. The film also includes powerhouse voice actor cast such as

Ishikawa Kaito, Nobunaga Shimazaki, and Kanazawa Hana. The film earned more than ten billion yen in one month alone from its premiere in August 2016, making it the first non-Ghibli movie to have earned over the said amount.

The film starts lightheartedly, with the two protagonists struggling to live each other's lives. Mitsuha, who is originally very feminine, becomes tomboyish and popular in school. Taki, who used to be brash, acts shy and polite. However, the film becomes equally exciting and frustrating in the middle because of the circumstances of the main characters. The manner of storytelling does not give away any hints of an angsty or happy ending, a factor that makes the audience hold on to their seats. It seems Fate does not ever want Taki and Mitsuha to meet.

The movie also tackles many superstitious beliefs and rituals, which are essential to the main theme of the story. One of which is kuchikami-zake, also called as the "saliva sake. From the name itself, kuchikami-zake is made out of chewing rice and fermenting it as an offering to the gods. The tradition of kumihimo or braid-making is related to another Asian belief called "the red string of fate" which originated from a Chinese legend. As Mitsuha is a shrine maiden, she does these kinds of rituals carefully, showing more of the film's culture-based concepts.

Kimi no Na Wa tells of a love story that transcends the unthinkable dimensions of dreams and time. It is indeed one of the most memorable animated films of our time and should not be missed.

Intense drum beats and guitar riffs turn into beautiful music only when there's harmony within a rock band, but one Japanese group makes this music float beyond the surface when it added visual performance. Meet OLD.CODEX, the J-rock that's been making hits non-stop!

While the members already have big names of their own in the industry in various aspects, their joined forces create a bigger impact in the music industry. Tatsuhisa Suzuki or Ta\_2, the current vocals to the group, already has a flourishing solo music career when he created the band in 2009. In addition to that, he is also a known voice actor for many anime series, such as Akachi in Arata: The Legend, Yuuji Sakamoto in Baka and Test, Viscount Druitt in Black Butler, Makoto Tachibana in Free!, Tsubaki in Servamp, and Kazunari Takao in Kuroko's Basketball.

YORKE, on the other hand, is an established painter who first joined the band to produce the album art and website design, but before 2010 ended, he became an official member of the band. Now, he paints as the band plays music, which is something we don't commonly see in most musical performances. When only he and Ta\_2 were left, he provided lyrics, beginning with the songs in their album, "CONTRAST SILVER."

Back in 2009, Ta\_2 began the band with R·O·N (guitar and composition), sae (drums), and YoHsKe (guitar). Although the band went through various difficulties with the withdrawal of members, it has amounted to a lot of success. With the band reduced to the duo of Ta\_2 and YORKE, every now and then, they get support from Ryo Yamagata (drums), Shinji Omura (guitar), and Taizo Nakamura (bass).

Apart from the visual appeal of YORKE's interpretations through live painting, songs of OLD.CODEX have been used as theme songs for many anime series including Free! ("Rage on" and "Dried Up Youthful Fame"), Kuroko's Basketball ("Catal Rhythm" and "WALK"), Servamp ("Deal with"), and God Eater ("Feed A"). These songs

These songs involve energetic drumbeats that do not necessarily overpower the vocals and the instruments, making just about the perfect blend of upbeat rhythm, tagged with a balance of slow and fast tempo. As such, they partner perfectly with themes of sports in series such as Free! and Kuroko's Basketball.

So far, it has released 4 albums and 3 mini albums and has done several tours. Recently, it started its tour in Zepp Diver City this September, and its conclusion will be seen at the Nippon Budokan arena in Tokyo on January next year.

OLD.CODEX continues to blow our minds away with its music, but we'll definitely be hearing and seeing more of them around as each song is reimagined with expressive paintings. Let OLD.CODEX lead you to a revolution!



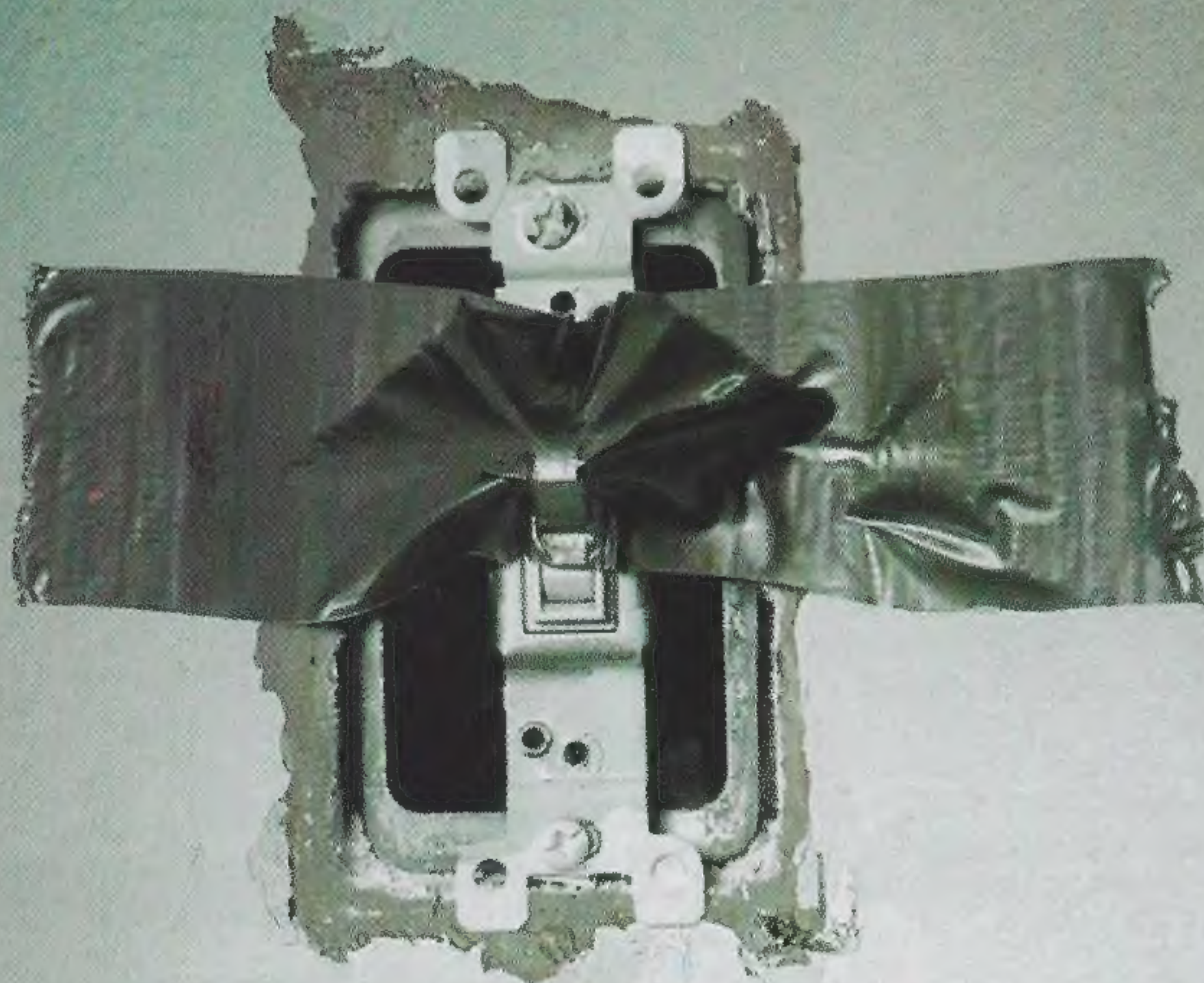




**BITS**

by Mikelle

# What Comes After the Lights Goes Out



# lights out

The summer season and Halloween is long over, but doesn't stop us from indulging and delving once more into the world of Horror movies.

When the movie's main female protagonist, **Rebecca**, decided to live independently and left home, she thought that her fears and regrets have all been left behind. Never did she realize that her little brother would also come face to face with the same terror that she experienced during her childhood. Growing up, Rebecca was terrorized by an esoteric entity that comes out every time the light goes out. Knowing full well about the danger it could bring to her brother, Rebecca decided to take action and protect her family.

Remember those horrific videos that were trending in social media and video streaming sites a while back; the ones where the people within the short videos suddenly notices an eerie shadowy figure from a distance inside their own homes while the light are out. As a natural reaction the person would of course be wary of the situation and logically turn the lights on in order to identify the source of their uneasiness, only to be confused as the figure disappears as soon as the light turns on. Weird enough the figure would reappear after they cut the light off again, only to notice that the figure seems to have moves closer. Crept out of the bizarre occurrence, the person would then flicker the light on and off while the figure lurks closer until it fast forwards right in front of the guy and spooks your brains out. Well basically, **Lights Out** takes that idea into the big screen in a masterful and more elaborate method.

Like most scary movies, **Lights Out** start with a surprisingly horrific ice breaker that lets watchers experience the general idea of how scary the story is. Followed shortly is the introduction of the characters that were left behind by the archetypal first victim of the film.

Various problems revolving around Rebecca's family circumstances were also presented in order to start the engine of the story. As things goes forward, pieces of the puzzle were revealed which tells the audience about the origin or how the horrors begun. Cutting right to the chase, Rebecca's mother was the key and source of eerie existence that plagues their lives.

A regretful sacrifice was shown at the end of the story which also brings about an end to the strange phenomenon and thus the story comes to a complete close. Unlike other horror flick that leaves a tiny surprise at the end of the movie that may also hint a potential sequel, **Lights Out** did no such thing. It may be for the best since a proper closure for the story had been made, yes it is a sad solution but it is a closure nonetheless.

Countless horror flicks has come and passed, some being genuinely scary while most are utter disappointments. In reference to critics and other reviews, it is safe to say that **Lights Out** fall under the latter category. Needless to say that it still depends on the watchers taste and preference so if you've got the guts to encounter the things that goes bump in the night; give the movie a spin and test your own mettle.





# O-KUN TALES

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS OTAFANS!~

It's Christmas time! Oh how we Filipinos love the holidays; long vacation, family time and lots and lots of gifts! While we must not forget the true reason of Christmas, we have to celebrate ourselves and what we have achieved this year. This 2016, Otaku Asia thanks the readers, fans and event goers. We are grateful for your love and support and we will keep on working for the next year to entertain and service you with more articles, features and activities. We hope you stay with us next year as well.



Merry Christmas Otafans~ I hope you enjoy the holidays, especially with your loved ones. We are really grateful with you guys! For supporting us in the magazine and of course our annual event which is the O-kun Fiesta. We will surely bring and release more issues that you'll surely love and of course we will make another O-kun Fiesta that will be enjoyable and memorable to everyone~

It's Christmas again yey!!.... It's a time of joy and love. Don't forget to always share love to each other.. and together let's pray peace for other nation... let's celebrate Christmas with our savior.. Merry Christmas Otafans and thank you for supporting Otaku Asia...



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Lately, we've been having countless issues in our country, so let's include our people and the state of our nation in our prayers. Also, give thanks to everyone who has been a part of your life this year. I truly hope we can be part of your 2017 as we were in your 2016!

Hello Otafans Xander here! It's almost end of the year again already. I'm so happy that you still keep supporting us! Aaaaa what sound I say, Merry Christmas!~

Let's just enjoy this season and reminisce all the things happened to us. Have a Happy Holidays!



Hello, Otafans! Merry Christmas to all of you! I hope you enjoy your holidays and the presents you'll be getting this Christmas! Let us all enjoy this season while it lasts. I know the year 2016 hasn't really been a kind year to most of us, but here we are, it's finally coming to an end. May the new year ahead be much better and we hope you will be with us again in this journey. Thank you so much for supporting Otaku Asia and happy holidays!



Season's greetings Otafans! Another year comes to an end and a new cycle is about to begin. More eventful experience and tons of surprises awaits us in the upcoming year so stay healthy, may you all remain prosperous. Many thanks for everyone's continuous patronage and I hope to see and hear from you guys once again. Happy Holidays!

Hey Otafans! Time sure flies fast doesn't it? Many things happened this year but even if these events were bad, be sure to be thankful for them as they made an impact to your life that will help you in the future. I know there are still things you haven't done this year so be sure to put them in your 2017 list! Happy holidays everyone and wishing you a blessed new year! Be always thankful even for the smallest things you'll receive okay? Thank you so much for your continuous support~



Ohai there Otafans! Reikisha here~ Gee, 2016 ended before we even knew it. Time sure does fly when you're not paying attention to your surroundings. How was 2016 for you guys? I'm sure more bad things happened this year than the good ones, but let's not use that as an excuse not to anticipate what 2017 have in store for us. It's ironic to say this because I'm the opposite of optimism. kek. But \*ahem\* anyway, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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## #THROWBACK

Remember the family-friendly anime of old days, the ones that are either based on popular fairy tales or based on sixteenth to nineteenth-century Europe? If you're well into your twenties or at least late teens, then you will. Having asked that, do you remember The Snow Queen? Unless you've already watched this before, then you definitely haven't, as it never got an English or Filipino translation. Nevertheless, it's an old anime based on a well-loved classic, so it deserves a throwback despite its obscurity.



## The Snow Queen (2005)

by James

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's longest fairy tales, The Snow Queen is about Gerda and Kay, two neighbors and childhood friends in a small European town, and the Snow Queen, who lives with her trolls in her castle, which is in the far-flung and uninhabitable ice caps. The fate of the two friends and the mysterious regal intertwines when the Snow Queen's mirror shatters, and its shards flew across the world. If a shard enters a person's eye, he or she gets struck with a seemingly incurable sadness – that is exactly what happens to Kay. One night, after falling to this unfortunate fate, Kay is visited and is taken away by the Snow Queen. Everyone in town believes Kay drowned in a lake, but not Gerda, as she was the only one who witnessed the Snow Queen abduct him. Now it's up to her to save her friend.

Being one of those child-friendly 90's anime with European settings and an art style to match it, the show has a very lighthearted feel. But as the show gets into the main plot, it becomes more dramatic. And while it's not exactly heavy all throughout, it isn't light either. But regardless of what you think is the weight of the drama, the show has an air of magic and mystery, true to its fairy tale roots.

Strangely yet pleasantly familiar and completely mystical, Snow Queen is a throwback that you probably didn't know – and didn't know you wanted and needed – before, a return to childhood in a different way. So dig in and enjoy, because this seemingly cold tale is guaranteed to warm your heart.



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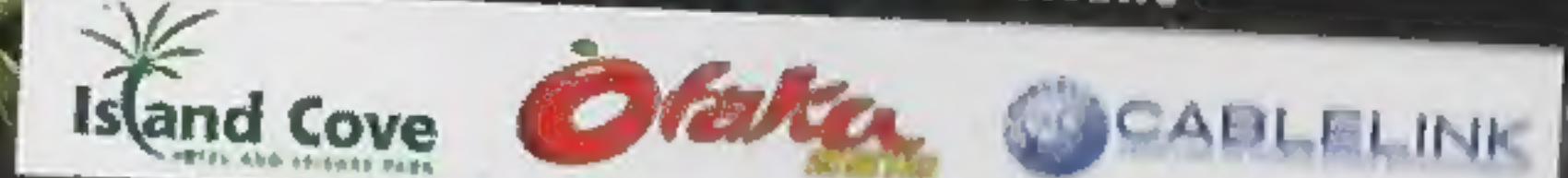
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